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WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS
A HISTORY
1636-1925

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VOLUME II

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CHAPTER XIV

NORTHERN TIER OF TOWNS

Williamstown the northwestern town of the county was formerly known as the West Township. The history of this Town begins so far as white men are concerned, about 1749, for on the 18th of April of that year the General Court passed an order directing the laying out of two townships near Hancock "of the contents of six square miles." Williamstown is the "West Township" referred to in the records and as laid out out by the committee it was eight and one-eighth miles long from north to south and almost five and one-fourth in width from east to west. It has an uneven boundary line between Massachusetts and New York states. When first surveyed in 1749 and on until 1838 it was bounded on the north by Pownal in Vermont, east by Clarksburg and Adams, south by New Ashford and Hancock, and on the west it was separated from New York State by a gore of land 446 rods in width at the south end terminating in a point one and a half miles from the north end of the town, which distance was bounded by Petersburgh in New York. This gore was annexed to the town in April, 1838 by an act of the legislature.

In the beginning sixty-three lots were laid out between 1749 and 1753. The names of forty-six persons are given in the records as proprietors. Lot No. 1 was reserved for the Minister and one for a school. The first to actually settle there were: Dr. Seth Hudson, Lieut. Samuel Brown, Jr., Lieut. Isaac Wyman, Ezekiel Foster, John Chamberlin, Benjamin Simonds, Thomas Train, Micah Harrington, Captain Elisha Chapin, Samuel Taylor, John Crofoot or Crofford, Daniel Donillson, and Ebenezer Graves.

The warrant for calling a meeting was granted to Isaac Wyman, a lieutenant stationed at Fort Massachusetts, one of the original proprietors. The first meeting was held December 5, 1753, at the house of Seth Hudson. One page of the minutes of this town meeting "No. 1," reads as follows (note the spelling, etc.): "At Proprietors meeting Lawfully warned in the west township at hoosuck so called December the fifth, 1753.

"Voted by the major part of the proprietors at Sd meet in the foure going articles vizt.:

"First Voted and chose Isaac Wyman Proprietors Clerk.

"Second Voted and chose Allen Curtise Moderator for Sd meetin."

At this meeting ten shillings were voted to purchase a record book for the Town.

This town is well watered by both swift running streams and springs never failing, to the extent that but few if indeed any farms within the town lack plenty of fine water.

The settlement of this town was retarded materially by the hostilities of the Indians. The valley of the Hoosac was one of the natural routes by which the French and Indians were enabled to reach the English Colonists of Massachusetts Bay. The route was down Lake Champlain and the Hudson until the valley of the Hoosac was reached—twenty miles above Albany—then eastward along this valley and that of the Deerfield, and southward toward the Connecticut settlements. Fort Massacusetts was built to check and prevent the invasions of foes. It did not at all times prevent them coming into the territory of "West Township." In 1754, the settlement at "Dutch Hoossuck (Hoosick Falls) was broken up by the Indians and some of the settlers were killed. The place was abandoned for the time being entirely. Early in 1756 William Chidister petitioned the General Court to provide a Blockhouse for the "Westerly Township." This protection was erected on lot No. 6 belonging to Mr. Chidister. The Court ordered on March 9, 1756 as follows: "Ordered that there be forty men at Hoosuck and no more. Thirty whereof to be posted at Fort Massachusetts and ten at the West Township, the said ten at ye West Township to be inhabitants of sed Township if there shall be so many inhabitants effective for the service, always including the men that shall have been concerned in building the Blockhouse agreeable to the vote of the Court of the 28th of January last."

The command of this fort was at first given to Sergeant Samuel Taylor, and he was followed in April by Mr. Chidister. July, 1756, the Blockhouse was attacked by a large party of the enemy, and Chidister and one of his sons were killed. Seth Hudson succeeded to the command of the fort, which received considerable accessions of men during the next two years, and ammunition came from Fort Massachusetts. Peace was declared between France and England in 1763, and this town was incorporated in 1765.

Richard Stratton, one of the pioneers of this section, came from what is now known as Warren. His name appears many places in the records as clerk (signed Clark). He was an active man

and helped materially to open up the country. He was here as early as 1761, and built the first two story house in the town, later owned by James M. Waterman. Others whose names are interwoven in the history of early years in this town were: Thomas Train, Jonathan and James Meacham, cousins from New Salem; they were here in 1753-54. Thomas Dunton, from Western, lived at what is now Depot Bridge, was also early. A Quaker named Paris, lived on the south side of the street, near Green river, but moved to East street. William and Josiah Horsford came very early from Canaan, Connecticut. The last named served as clerk for many years.

Captain Nehemiah Smedley, from Litchfield, in 1754 built a house on lot one, long occupied by Mrs. Benjamin, but later the college buildings were erected over the ground.

Derrick Smith, another pioneer-settler from Connecticut lived in the house on the Vermont-Massachusetts line. It was later used as a tavern, by Timothy Ware, a Vermont magistrate, qualified to perform the marriage ceremony. The north part of the house stood in Vermont, and frequently the Massachusetts law was evaded by parties who passed just over the line into the north room and were there married.

Other early settlers were Elisha Baker, Daniel Burbank, 1764; Thomas Roe, Aaron Deming, Bartholomew Woodcock, 1765; Ichabod Southwick, 1763; Elijah Rich, David Johnson, William and John Torrey, 1767; Capt. Samuel Clark, 1765, from Connecticut; Moses and Andrew Young, before 1770; Titus Deming. The town received a large immigration from Colchester, Connecticut, between 1770 and 1800.

Williamstown showed her loyalty in the days of the Civil War. It furnished 260 soldiers, eighteen over its quota. It appropriated June, 1861, five thousand dollars for the support of soldiers' families, saying in the records "in the present war against Southern Rebels." They paid bounties to the soldiers under different calls for troops. The same spirit has ever been noticed during the trying times in later wars, even the last Great World War, in which men and money were not lacking.

From 1761 to 1764 the records show that the people were seeking a "Minister of the Gospel." Finally in 1765 Mr. Whitman Welch was called as minister. He received eighty pounds sterling for settlement; salary, forty pounds first year to increase until it reached seventy pounds a year. He was ordained 1765;

in 1776 he became a chaplain in the War for Independence. He spent the winter in Canada where he died in March of the same year. Other ministers included: Revs. Swift, King, Gridley, Joseph Alden, D.D., Albert Smith, Amos Savage, Peters, Addison Ballard, 1857 to 1864. Up to 1885 there had been connected with this church from the first to that date 1,716 persons.

The Baptist church was formed in 1813 with twenty-two members.

The Methodist Episcopal church was organized in 1821 by Rev. Stead and Billy Hibbard. In 1846 they built the first church in Williamstown village. Episcopal and Roman Catholic churches were there in the seventies.

The first meeting-house in South Williamstown was erected in 1808-9 by subscription. It was built jointly by the Congregationalists and Baptists.

Until 1860 the town was divided into school districts, but at that date the district system was abolished. An Academy was established in 1827 and incorporated in 1828, continuing until 1860. In 1832 Douglas W. Sloan had a private school for boys in the house owned by Williams College later. Henry G. Buckley started a boys school in about 1840 on "Stone Hill." Another private school for boys was conducted by Richard W. Swan in 1855; another in 1872 by Prof. Griffin. "Floras Glen," or Glen Seminary, was run by the Misses Snyder. In 1842 Mills Brothers opened a private school for boarding and day pupils in the village of South Williamstown. This was the founding of Greylock Institute. Students came from Albany, New York, in an omnibus for each term, until the railway afforded better accommodations. In 1845 Mr. Mills built a new building making room for thirty scholars. This school prospered until its building was destroyed by fire in 1872; it rebuilt but in 1882 after serving forty years Benj. F. Mills retired and was succeeded by his son, George F. Mills, who continued a number of years longer.

In 1827 a printing office was established in Williamstown and conducted the "American Advocate," which was in existence a number of years.

The Williamstown National Bank was established in 1883 with thirteen directors. The most important industry of the town and surrounding country has always been farming. Especially dairying, and many years they marketed 300,000 pounds of cheese in New York City. Potatoes are here produced, but grains have

never been extensively grown. At one time many sheep were raised but not of recent times. Some attempt was made at manufacturing, but not recently. In 1826 a cotton factory was erected on Green river, employing forty hands. It was enlarged several times but was destroyed by fire in 1883. A starch factory flourished at one time and farmers furnished the potatoes from which fine starch was produced. In 1883 the "Williamstown Watch Company" was organized with a capital of $300,000. The Blackinton woolen factory was at one day profitable. This was started in 1828 and burned in 1842 but rebuilt and continued.

The present population of this place is 3,707, according to the 1920 United States census. In 1900 it had a population of 5,013.

The present interests of the town in 1925 are its paper mill, woolen and cotton mills, carriage shops, and hardware production. Its chief attraction is the ancient educational institution—Williams College—now undenominational, but whose thousands of graduates have gone forth to every part of the globe to do good work among mankind.

The local newspaper is the "News-Advertiser," published Fridays (independent), established in 1919.

The two banks of Williamstown are the Williamstown National, incorporated in 1888 with a $50,000 capital; the Williamstown Savings Bank, incorporated in 1892 and had assets amounting to $1,200,000.

The Town has an area of forty-nine square miles. Within it are situated five villages. This Township was incorporated in 1765. It is situated in a very romantic section of the State and on Green river. The recent directory gives its manufacturing plants as the one operated by John S. Boyd & Company and Greylock Mill "B," producers of fine combed cotton clothes and warp yarns. The 1924-25 Town officers are: George W. Crundy, Clerk; John B. Locke, A. G. Bratton and L. P. Jenks, Selectmen; W. B. Clark, treasurer; C. P. Stocking, collector of taxes; Allen E. Evans, auditor; Thomas W. Nichols, overseer of the poor; William F. Bradley, tree-warden.

The churches of the village now are First Congregationalist and another of this denomination at South Williamstown; Methodist Episcopal; St. John's Episcopal; Central Baptist; another of this sect in South Williamstown; Church of Christ; St. Patrick's Roman Catholic; St. Raphael French Catholic churches.

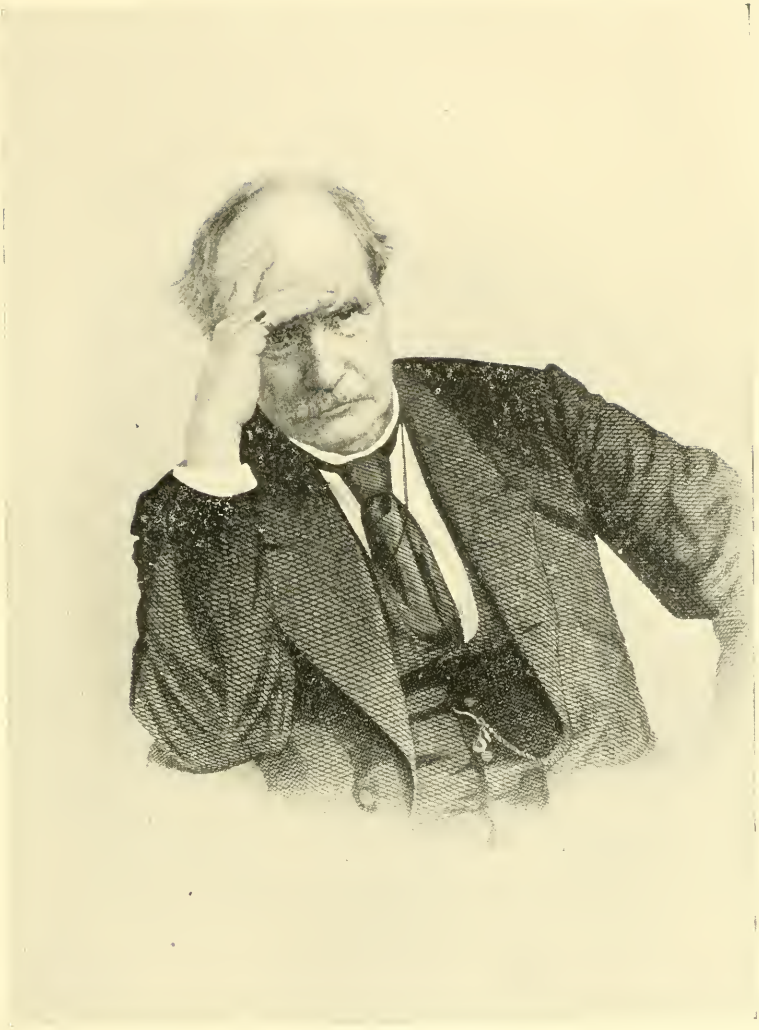
The Town of Williamstown had in the fall of 1924 a report

published showing receipts and disbursements for the year ending December 31, 1924 of $457,551.77.

Williams College—This college owes its origin to an educational bequest of Colonel Ephraim Williams for the purpose of establishing a "Free School" in Williamstown. The charter of this school, which was granted March 8, 1785, reads in part as follows:

"An Act for directing the use and appropriation of a charitable donation, made in a certain clause in the last will and testament of Ephraim Williams, Esq., for the support and maintenance of a Free School in Williamstown, in the county of Berkshire; and for the incorporating certain persons as trustees, in order more effectually to execute the intention of the testator, expressed in the same." Then followed nine sections of the will of Colonel Williams, concerning this school to be "Free" and it will be remembered that this was a half century before the present public school system was thought of, for all schools were private and subscription until about 1835 when the people were in some states taxed for schools. At the first meeting of the trustees of the school above named, April 24, 1785, the trustees passed a resolution to the effect that, "it is the sense of the corporation that the Free School in Williamstown be opened free for the use and benefit of the inhabitants of that town and of the free citizens of the American States indiscriminately." They also decided that "it will best coincide with the liberal views of the donor and the intention of the legislature to admit no pupil to the Free School not having been taught to read English well.

As they found it difficult to collect enough funds for erecting a building, the trustees sent a petition to the Legislature, August 19, 1788, "for the grant of a lottery to raise the sum of twelve thousand pounds Sterling." Such an act was passed February 11,1789, thus the "scheme" for raising money by lottery was started in this manner by the laws of the Commonwealth. The Legislature also granted a petition calling for the right to transfer the Free School property over to a College. The date of this was June 22, 1793. An Act of February 4, 1796 authorized the granting of two townships of land to the College. These two townships were to contain six miles square each. The location of such land was in what was then styled the District of Maine. These lands were sold for about $10,000, and the proceeds devoted to building East College. In 1809 the legislature granted "another town-



DAVID DUDLEY FIELD

ship of land in Maine" for the support of Williams College. This land brought $9,500. As time passed on many resources came to this college and today the large group of magnificent stone and brick buildings on the campus of "Old Williams" equals almost those of any on the American Continent. There are twenty-seven buildings, each worthy of more space than is allowed in this connection.

The latest year-book of this institution—that of 1924— shows that during that year seven hundred and fifty students attended this college. These students came from thirty-five states and countries. New York took the lead with 283; Massachusetts with 132; New Jersey with 71.

What is proudly pointed to by the alumni of this college as "Williams' Roll Call" reads as follows: "A President of the United States (James A. Garfield), a vice-president; a treasurer of the United States, two secretaries of the United States; two secretaries of the interior; five United States ambassadors and ministers; twelve governors and lieutenant-governors; consuls and legation attaches, 27; Congressmen, 67; members of state legislatures, 315; mayors, 39; justices of state and Federal supreme courts, 30; judges, 194; lawyers, 1,290; college presidents, 71; presidents of seminaries, 193; professors, 241; teachers, 1,089; missionaries, 179; ministers, 1,025; authors, 132; editors, 190; scientists, 76; physicians, 514; railway presidents, 9; engineers and architects, 152; bankers, 205; business men, 1,000.

The first president of this college was Rev. Ebenezer Fitch, D.D., 1793-1815 while the present president is Harry Augustus Garfield, L.H.D., LL.D., beginning in 1908. He is the son of President James A. Garfield, who was an instructor in this college in 1857.

It was Williams College that started the foreign missionary interests in the world, at what is now known as the "Hay-stack Prayer Meeting." The spot is marked by an appropriate monument, for at this spot in 1810, five students held a prayer meeting during a thunder storm and four of the five present devoted their lives to the missionary cause. Over five thousand men have gone forth from this institution, fitted for life.

Town of Clarksburg—Once seen, the sublimity of mountain scenes in the vicinity of old Bald, or Hoosac mountains, is ever before one's mind as they travel through New England.

> Where run bright rills, and stand high rocks,
> Where health and beauty comes,

And peace and happiness abides,
Rest Berkshire Hills and Homes.

From any of the numerous hills may be seen old Greylock, king of the mountains. Also appear Mount Adams, a spur of the Green Mountain range and the beautiful curves of the Taconics.

This town has the form of a parallelogram, seven miles long and two and a half miles in width. It is 120 miles distant from Boston and twenty-five from Pittsfield, the seat of justice for Berkshire county. It contains eighteen square miles of territory, nearly one hundred good farms; one hundred and forty good dwellings. As long ago as 1885 there were two good stores at Briggsville, several factories, a town library there; 720 population. While the land is quite rough it is fairly productive. The great mountain in the western part of the town was an important station in the coast survey. Its latitude is forty-two degrees, forty-four minutes north, and longitude seventy-three degrees, nine minutes west.

The settlement was commenced in Clarksburg in 1769 by Captain Matthew Ketchum, Nicholas Clark and others. It is related when Colonel William Bullock measured out the grant which bears his name he was compelled, in order to complete his complement of 23,000, to extend it around Bernardston's grant. He intended to reach to the Vermont line, but not knowing exactly where it was, and careful not to lose any part of his grant by going into that state, he stopped a mile short of the line, and proceeded westward four or five miles along the north line of Bernardston's grant and Adams. The part of Bullock's grant which lies north of this grant and town and west of Monroe, together with the gore which separates it from Williamstown and Vermont, originally constituted Clarksburg. A part of it was annexed to Florida May 2, 1848.

The town was named from one of its leading families. Nicholas Clark, and his brothers Aaron, Stephen, and Silas, came in at the same period, from Cumberland, R. I. A man named Hudson is believed to have been the first white man to invade this territory for the purpose of making a permanent settlement. He felled a tree in the town, hence the name Hudson's Brook which passes under the natural bridge soon after its entrance into Adams. It was designed to name the Town after Hudson, but for some unknown reason it was changed. Originally, the Town contained 10,400 acres. As early as 1829 there were four mills running all the year round. Briggsville where the earliest postoffice in the town

was established, had A. A. Lee for its postmaster. When H. B. Briggs built his brick woolen mills the office, in 1866, was taken there. Later this concern was styled "The Linwood Woolen Company," of which H. P. Briggs was treasurer. There was located the great Clarksburg reservoir, which furnishes Hoosac water to several mills below. A goodly number of houses were built near the mill site where about one hundred and fifty hands were employed about forty years ago.

The straight line of the Pittsfield & North Adams Railroad cuts the southern Valley just below Clarksburg in twain; the Troy & Boston line bisects the western valley, while the two branches of the Hoosac—the north branch of which flows the entire length of Clarksburg—unite at North Adams and flow on westward through the other valley that divides Greylock from Mount Adams. It has been well said that these three deep valleys with the village at the point of their junction and the magnificent mountain walls that shut them in, give the beholder a picture the beauty of which cannot be eclipsed by any scene that New England can furnish. One writer said: "It is good to be here; let us make tabernacles and abide; for surely there shall never rest upon our souls a purer benediction."

Churches and schools appear here and there over the territory of this town. Farming and milling have produced an intelligent, contented class of thrifty citizens. Numerous religious revivals occurred in this part of Berkshire county, resulting in the establishment of several churches of different denominations, some of which exist today. No better or more faithful communicants are found on the church books of Adams and Stamford than those whose names are there written as belonging to the little mountain town of Clarksburg. In an account written of this town forty years ago by George B. Griffith, occur these words: "In addition to the industries mentioned as conducted on the principal streams is the planing mill of George Hall. The manufacture of bricks was once a lucrative business, and a wool-carding mill used to flourish here. During and prior to the Civil War and up to 1869, there were three powder mills located here. Powder to the value of $36,000 was there made annually and lumber cut to the value of over $4,000 a year. Though the soil of Clarksburg is hard and stony, there are many thrifty farmers and agriculture is necessarily the chief business of the people. Lumber is carried on to a considerable extent, stock-raising also, and there are not

a few fine horses and choice flocks of sheep. Lumber consists mostly of oak, chestnut, spruce, and hemlock, and that upon the East Mountain, is regarded (1885) as most valuable. Between the soil and the milling interests the people have been able to become quite independent financially, with the passing decades."

The town books show that the first town treasurer and collector was Nicholas Clark and that the office has remained in the Clark family until the death of the last member in the eighties.

The population of the town of Clarksburg in 1920 was placed at 1,136.

The present (1925) town officers are as follows: Town clerk, John Miller; selectmen, chairman, Dexter S. Bishop; selectmen, Charles S. McBride, Edward H. Gleason; treasurer, John Henderson; collector, John Henderson; assessors, chairman, Ralph M. Tanner, E. H. Brown, Louis N. Coty; board of health, chairman, George W. Hall, George Carson, David Witte; school committee: chairman, William Carson, Grace Bishop, Hector M. Fraser; auditor, Edward W. Gleason; chief of police, George W. Hall; fire warden, A. G. Caswell; moth inspector, A. G. Caswell; cattle inspector, E. H. Brown; meat inspector, Fred Canedy; tree warden, Benjamin F. Eddy.

Town of Florida—This town lies in the extreme northeastern corner of Berkshire county, occupies three miles and 265 rods in length, and is quite irregular in its width. The northern portion of this town was granted to the town of Bernardston, in consideration of the loss sustained by that town in running the line between Massachusetts and the New Hampshire grants, now the state of Vermont. For many years the tract was styled "Bernardston's Grant." Bullock's Grant and King's Grant, so called, each contributed territory to Florida, and it is situated on the height of the Green Mountain range. The town is 125 miles, west-by-north from Boston, and twenty-two miles from Pittsfield. It is intersected by the Greenfield railroad and the Hoosac Tunnel. Florida was incorporated as a town June 15, 1805, and contains 7,350 acres. Its first settler was Dr. Daniel Nelson, who came from Stafford, Connecticut, in 1783. Before 1795 came in Paul Knowlton, Sylvanus Clark, Nathan Drury, Jesse King, and Stephen Staples.

The well presesrved town records tell us today that the first town meeting was held at the residence of Captain Luke Rice, "on the hill," August 22, 1805 and was designated as a gathering of

the free-holders. Mr. Rice was chosen moderator and was many years prominent in the affairs of the town. The first birth in the township was Diantha Whitcomb, February 27, 1805 before formation of the town, and the next of Loizia Heminway, October 23, 1810. Among the first marriages in Florida was that of Benjamin Negur with Abigail Ladler, both of Zoar, married by Jesse King, justice of the peace. Among the town's most influential pioneers was Nathan Drury, a successful farmer and efficient town clerk. He amassed a fortune and founded Drury Academy of North Adams. In 1829 there were eighty families and seventy-five dwelling houses in Florida. In 1885 the town had a population of about 472, possibly one hundred more than at present. Among the town's postoffices is the one at Hoosac Tunnel founded in 1858 with W. T. Jenks as postmaster.

A Baptist church was organized in 1810; in 1824 they built a house of worship and in 1861 a new building was provided.

A Congregational church was established in May, 1814, with eleven members and continued a number of years, then was closed. A Christian and a Universalist church were formed between 1830 and 1835.

A large wood pulp factory was among the industries in the forties and fifties. In the eighties this plant was still running and making 17,100 pounds in twelve hours. The water wheels driving the grinders had 625 horse-power and twenty-five men were constantly employed.

This town boasted forty years ago of having a fine, large building known as the Hoosac Tunnel Hall which was erected in 1865. It was burned in 1875 but a new one replaced it in 1884. Jencks & Rice's hotel was one of the early summer resorts; another was known as Hoosac Tunnel House. The first named hotel was built in 1837.

During the Civil War this town sent to the front for the Union cause forty-five men, of whom eleven were lost.

Of course the outstanding feature of Florida town is Hoosac Tunnel and the Mountains. The great tunnel is on the west bank of the Deerfield river, in the eastern center of the town. The top of the tunnel is a semicircle, with a radius of thirteen feet, and the sides are arcs of a circle, with a radius of twenty-six feet. This paragraph was in a former history of Berkshire county, concerning this town: "The denizens of the mountain districts of Florida are quite largely (1885) engaged in stock-raising, wool-growing,

and the industry of lumbering as well as farming. Some four hundred sheep are pastured annually, and as many as 17,000 pounds of delicious maple sugar were made for the past few years."

The present (1925) town officers in Florida are as follows: Selectmen, G. N. Thatcher, A. F. W. Newman and W. O. Ford; treasurer, G. W. Searle; town clerk, George Martin; assessors, G. N. Thatcher, J. Newman; tax-collector, G. N. Thatcher; auditor, H. L. Raycroft; overseer of the poor, A. F. W. Newman; superintendent of school, Charles C. Richardson.

The reports of the town treasurer for 1924 gives figures as follows: Receipts for year ending December 31, 1924, $64,146; disbursements for the same period, $52,945.

Hancock Town—This is the longest and narrowest sub-division of Berkshire county and is an agricultural section of the same. Its population in 1920 was 464. It has one-third of the State's boundary on New York, and in its early days was slower in settlement on account of the uncertainty of the state line which until adjusted was likely to cause much litigation as to land titles. Until 1787 the town was three-fourths of a mile wider than at present and in that portion the first settlements were effected. In the summer of 1767 Asa Douglass, Esq., made the first actual settlement. The first town meeting was held August 21, 1776 at the house of Asa Douglass, Esq. He was chosen to represent the town in the General Court of Massachusetts. "Voted that he should procure the incorporation of this town. That he should have a certificate of good character and standing," and 13thly voted, "That the title of 'Honorable' pertaining to this gentleman be annexed to their names who have wrote to the General Court of Massachusetts, a recommendation of Esq. Douglass." The names thus embalmed in public record as "Honorable" were: Captain Daniel Goodrich, Benjamin Baker, Eleazer Deming, Benijah McCaul, and Ensign Martin Townsend.

The Revolutionary War came on and the records show that in May, 1778, it was voted that the selectmen proceed to procure clothing for the soldiers according to the act of the General Court. Also that "$300 be assessed and collected for hiring soldiers; that $200 be used for the upper and $100 for the lower company." The last named was at New Lebanon, then a part of Hancock town, the upper where now stands the village of Hancock. It was then voted that "there shall be no horse racing in this town." Squire Douglass had charge of the powder magazine which was an

underground stone structure and was in what was later the cemetery a half mile north from the village. In August, 1778, one pound in silver would purchase as much as four and one-half pounds currency. Rum was 17 shillings per quart, and tea $12 per pound. During the Revolution the population of this town were somewhat divided as to their devotion to the Mother country. The records show the following: "Voted that if any person or inhabitant of this town shall at any time from and after this date harbor or keep any tory or person unfriendly to the inhabitants of the United States of America, knowing them to be such, he shall be taken into custody and held in confinement until tried." Hancock people read every section of the proposed Constitution, and were not afraid to give their opinion through their representative, Samuel Hand. They insisted that two amendments should be made to the Constitution as first made: One was that the town should be privileged to appoint or elect its own justices of the peace, and a second amendment that the Governor of the Commonwealth should be a professor of the Protestant Church religion. In 1780 thirty-two votes were cast for John Hancock for governor, and two for James Bowdoin. January, 1781, it was voted "To deliver 7,336 pounds of beef and to procure the three years men and to give as a bounty to each man enlisting 150 Spanish milled silver dollars, or its value."

Among the foremost pioneer settlers of this town are recalled by historians, the names of Samuel Hand, above mentioned, Franklin Hand, Gideon King, Asa Douglass, Ensign Martin Townsend, Captain Caleb B. Gardner, Thomas Eldridge, from Rhode Island; and the several Gardners. Two slaves are noted of record as being Peter and Edward who appear to have been quite witty.

One incident connected with the Revolution and this town should ever be kept in mind and perpetuated in the annals of Berkshire county, as follows:

Among the prisoners taken by the Americans at the battle of Hoosic was an inhabitant of Hancock, a plain farmer, Richard Jackson. He conscientiously took the royal side, and felt bound to take the earliest opportunity to serve his sovereign. Learning that Col. Baum was advancing toward Bennington, and taking an early start, he hastened on horseback to Hoosic, intending to join Col. Baum's corps. He was captured under such circumstances as proved his purpose and he was too honest to deny it. He was taken to Great Barrington and put in charge of General Fellows, high sheriff, who confined him in the county jail, then so out of repair that a prisoner unguarded could easily escape. Richard had no thought of making such an attempt. After a few days he said he was losing

time and asked the sheriff's permission to go out and earn something, promising to return at night. His character by this time being known, his wish was granted. Regularly, through the remaining autumn, winter and spring, till early in May, with scarcely an exception, he performed his day's work, returning to the jail at the promised hour. In May he was to be tried for high treason. The sheriff prepared to take him to Springfield. Richard said it was not needful, as he could go alone and save the expense. He was allowed to go alone, the only instance of like journey for the same object. In the woods of Tyringham he was overtaken by the Hon. J. Edwards, who tells the story: "Whither are you going?" said Mr. Edwards. "To Springfield, sir, to be tried for my life," answered Richard. He went directly to Springfield, surrendered himself, was tried, found guilty and condemned to death.

Afterward an application was made to the Council of Massachusetts, then the superior executive of the State, for a pardon. The facts were stated, the evidence by which they were supported, and the sentence grounded on them. The President put the question, "Shall a pardon be granted to Richard Jackson?" The gentleman who first spoke said the case was clear, the act was high treason, and the proofs complete. If a pardon was granted in his case it should be in every other. So said the others in turn, till the question reached Mr. Edwards. He told the whole story with a simplicity and truthfulness which give to light and shade a living reality, touch the heart, and enforce conviction. The Council began to hesitate. One of the members finally said, "Certainly such a man as this ought not to be sent to the gallows." To this opinion the assent was unanimous. A pardon was immediately made out and sent to Springfield, and Richard returned to his family in the town of Hancock. Never was a stronger argument that honesty is wisdom.

Among the first settlers was Jonathan Hazard, Esq., and his son Henry from Rhode Island. Rodman, son of Henry was born in 1775. He married and engaged in the tanning and leather business and later started the first clothiery in Hancock and commenced making satinet cloth, the first ever woven in America. He represented Hancock in the General Court in 1806 and remained in office till 1823. During the War of 1812 he furnished a company of soldiers. In 1820 he aided General Lafayette in laying the corner-stone of Bunker Hill Monument. He died in 1845.

The Baptist church was formed in Hancock in June, 1772, with fifteen members.

For a few years there was a Friends Meeting-House in the town.

The Hancock Shaker Village lies partly in Pittsfield and partly in Hancock town. A society was there established in 1792. At first there were only three families of this sect in this vicinity. Farming and small factory plants were the base for the thrift

of this community. In the eighties it was said that the farms had increased by additions until they owned two thousand acres. When first established here the Shakers were despised and maligned; but the ill feeling toward them has long since died out and for long years they have been accounted worthy citizens. The largest population of this peculiar sect was in 1820-30 when there was known to be three hundred families of that faith.

The present (1925) town officers are as follows: Town clerk, Augustus McSorley; selectmen, M. Dee, Harry Sharp, Henry Blair; assessors, Delos Whitman, Wells Conklin, Walter Hadselle; surveyor, L. J. Dee; treasurer and collector, Louis J. Dee; auditor, Allen Phelps. The total receipts of the town in 1924 were $33,296 and the total expenses were $29,412, leaving a balance of $3,884. The assessors report shows: Assessed value of all property, $478,150. Tax-rate per thousand dollars, $20.30; number of polls assessed, 110; number residents 83; non-residents assessed; total number assessed, 228. Number horses assessed, 133; number cows assessed, 408; number sheep, 111; number neat cattle, 153; number swine assessed, 25; number dwellings assessed, 116; number acres assessed, 20,648; number fowls assessed, 1,410. The school census in April, 1924 showed number boys, 48; number girls, 49—total 97. Name of superintendent, Everett G. Loring.

New Ashford—This town is in the northern part of Berkshire county, bounded by Williamstown on the north, by Adams and Cheshire on the east, by Cheshire and Lanesborough on the south and by Hancock on the west. It is about four and three-eighths miles from east to west and three and one-eighth miles from north to south. Its area is about thirteen and one-half square miles. It was at first known as New Ashford plantation, and its settlement began as early as 1762 by immigrants from the east part of the state, from Rhode Island and Connecticut. Among the early settlers who invaded this territory for the purpose of effecting a permanent settlement, were Nathaniel Abel, and Gideon Kent, Uriah, Peter, and Eli Mallery, William Green, Jacob Lion, Samuel Gridley, Jonathan, Hezekiah, and Caleb Beach, Samuel P., Jared, and Benjamin Tyler, Abraham Kirby, William Campbell, Amariah Babbit, Evans Roys, Captain Samuel Martin, Solomon Gregory, John Wells, Comfort and David Barns, Ebenezer Mudge, John and Dudley Hamilton, Jonathan Mason, and Andrew Cornish. The Inghams, Deweys, Sherwoods, Baxters, Goodells and

Pratts came at a little latter date. Peregrine Turner came in 1822 and built the house which for more than fifty years served as a country tavern. The earliest tavern in the town was by Leland White; it was kept many years by William Starkweather, who represented the district in the General Court. When first settled what was styled Beach Hill was named for the large Beach family of pioneers. The Tylers located in the north part of town and built the house which is the first on the road from Williamstown. It was built in 1805 and was a tavern more than twenty-five years. Samuel P. Tyler was an officer and fought at Boston and Bennington.

This is a rough mountain-covered town with many rugged hills. There are numerous valuable quarries of white and blue marble which have been opened and worked since 1822 for many years. In 1822 a survey for a proposed railroad from Pittsfield was made northward, passing through New Ashford and near these marble quarries.

The first town meeting was held June 7, 1775, with Capt. Gideon Kent as moderator. It was voted to abide by the doings of the Continental and Provisional Congress. The place was incorporated as a district, February 7, 1781, with all privileges of a town, except that of choosing a representative to the General Court. The first meeting was held at the house of Nathaniel Kent September 24, 1781.

From 1805 to 1813 the district united with Lanesborough in selecting a representative. For this purpose the voters of New Ashford met with the voters of Lanesborough at the town house in the last named place.

The district was fully incorporated May 1, 1836, and it was represented in the legislature of 1840-41 by Noble F. Roys. After 1857 for the purpose of district representation in the legislature, the town became, with Williamstown, Lanesborough and Hancock, the First Representative District of Berkshire county. In Civil War times this town paid its volunteer men as high as $150 each to enlist in the Union cause. The town furnished twenty-three soldiers, a surplus of one over all demands. In the autumn of 1782 it was voted "To build a house of public worship." In the forties the inhabitants of the town were mostly of the Methodist Episcopal denomination. A union church building was in use for many years. Perhaps the most prosperous time in the history of this part of the county was from 1814 to 1825, when there were

300 population, including sixty families and there were fifty dwellings. The 1885 census returns gave the town a population of only 163 and thirty-six dwellings. For various reasons the population has decreased until the 1920 census gave it as having only one hundred and sixteen.

The present (1925) town officers are as follows: Town clerk, Warren Baxter; selectmen, Elmer P. Beach, Bernard Mackey, Harry Phelps; treasurer, Forrest C. White; assessors, Warren H. Baxter, Alfred S. Beach, Elihu A. White; town auditor, Frank Thompson. The indebtedness of the town, $600; resources of town December, 1924, $973. The assessors' report shows for 1924: Total valuation of town, $97,060; tax-rate, $23.50 per thousand dollars; residents assessed, 24; non-residents assessed, 17; horses, 38; cows, 78; sheep, 115; cattle, 30; swine, 6; number houses, 33; number fowls, 920; acres of land, 6,857.

Town of Savoy—Among the townships sold in Boston June 2, 1762, was the present town of Savoy, then known as No. 6, because it was the sixth in the order of sale. It was bought by Abel Lawrence for 1,350 pounds Sterling. Eight years later the same township was given by the General Court to Col. William Bullock, agent for some heirs. This was in consideration of "services and sufferings rendered and endured in an expedition into Canada during King William's war, about 1690."

In the original sale the following boundaries were given:

> No. 6, A township to begin at New Framingham, northeast corner, thence northerly to East Hoosuck south line nine hundred and fifty rods, west of East Hoosuck southeast corner, thence easterly to the southeast corner of said East Hoosuck thence northerly on the east line of said East Hoosuck three miles one hundred and seventy rods, thence to extend twenty degrees south so far as to make the contents of six miles square, to Abel Lawrence for 1,350 pounds Sterling and have received of him twenty pounds and taken his bond, together with Charles Prescott, Esq., for 1,330 pounds.

Its present boundary is Florida on the north, Hawley with corners of Charlemont and Plainfield on the east, Windsor on the south, and Cheshire and Adams on the west.

The first settler in this town was one named Robinett and he came in for settlement in 1777, locating near the coal kilns. His after history is unknown to the present generation. The south part of the town, in the same year was settled by Captain Lemuel Hathaway, from Taunton. Of the thirty-four families who fol-

lowed him during the next ten years eight were from Taunton, six from Attleboro, two from Norton, three from Sharon, and one each from Rehoboth, Easton, Brimfield, Shutesbury, and Warren R. I. By 1800 the population numbered 430, and by 1810 it had increased to 711; ten years later, to 852; and in 1850 the census showed 1003; in 1885 it was 861 and the latest United States census gives (1920) only 436. Forty years ago it was shown that the farmers shipped out $20,000 worth of cheese annually. The highlands of this township are the watershed between the tributaries of the Deerfield and Westfield rivers on the eastern slope, and the Hoosac on the western. The eastern streams, though small, give ample water-power for the needs of the town. This is one of the seven towns forming the Fourth Berkshire District. By the terms of the sale and settlement, the town was obliged to maintain schools. The first town meeting, in 1797, appropriated $80 for schools. It was increased until in 1815 it amounted to $250. Down through the years this town has had schools equal to any other rural town in Berkshire county. Space forbids the enumeration and description of many settlers in various parts of this town, suffice to say they were, for the most part, noteworthy families whose offspring have become sturdy, reliable citizens.

The Baptist church was organized in Savoy, June 24, 1786, less than nine years after the town's settlement. Nathan Haskins called a meeting at the house of William Williams, who with his wife and Lucinda Wilbore, were from Adams; Nathan and Salmon Fay, and Benjamin Bullen, Alice Read and Zachariah Paddleford, were examined as to their Christian faith and "each one agreed to join the church covenant and fellowship." Thus began the first religious society of the town of Savoy. That was eleven years before the town's incorporation. The first settled minister was Nathan Haskins in January, 1789, who for such position received 380 acres of land. He died in the ministry in 1802 and three years prior to his passing, the name was changed to the "First Baptist Church, Savoy." Down through those eventful, history-making years this church stood for all that was good, true and loyal, both in days of peace and in time of wars. In May, 1832, on account of increased and scattered membership, another church was organized five miles northward, with Rev. McCullock as the first pastor.

In 1815 the Shakers came in and picked up the threads of a so-called church formed by one Joseph Smith, who later was known to have two wives. The Shakers built a mill and a church house

and a shop. For a season this sect prospered, but not many years.

The First Congregational Church society was formed in 1811 by persons from various points of the compass in this county. The church was organized legally in the autumn of 1811 with twenty members. Most of these charter members came from Windsor and they built a church soon afterwards. Only one pastor ever served here and in 1816 the church was disbanded for lack of ministerial support. Missions were kept up there until 1840 when all went down to rise no more.

In the forties the Adventists got a foothold in this town and for years ran well, but finally other "isms" virtually absorbed the Advent theory and other sects took its place.

The Methodist Episcopal church here seems to have originated in a revival meeting in 1834-35. A class was formed, a society was organized and it was a part of Buckland Circuit. In 1835 a building was erected in Savoy Hollow.

The only village within this town is Savoy Hollow, a mere hamlet.

The present (1924) town officers of Savoy are as follows: E. A. Barber, auditor; Amos E. Maynard, treasurer; C. E. Tilton, registrar; George E. Estes, collector.

The amount of real estate in 1924, $198,725; personal estate, $74,765; amount of taxes, $9,564.66; rate per thousand dollars, $34.00; number of residents on property, 124; on poll tax only, 30; horses assessed, 160; cows assessed, 323; cattle other than cows, 110; swine, 13; fowls, 1,130; dwelling houses, 120; acres of land, 14,398.

The assets in 1924 of this town were: $6,369; liabilities, $6,100; receipts, for year ending December 31, 1924, $44,035.41; expenditures, for year ending December 31, 1924, $42,856.30; balance on hand, for year ending December 31, 1924, $1,179.11.

The school reports show for 1924: Receipts, $9,000; Expenditures, $8,792.41.

Town of Cheshire—The real true map of the county of Berkshire shows a sub-division of it as being curiously shaped with twenty-five angles in its boundary—perhaps more angles than found in any other town in America. In the central portion of the town is a hill known as Stafford's Hill. There in 1766, was begun a settlement by pioneers from Providence, Rhode Island, at first called Providence Hill. The early accounts of this territory show that Nicholas Cook, of Providence, and Joseph Bennett,

of Coventry, Rhode Island, bought June 26, 1666, of John Worthington and Josiah Dwight, of Springfield, and others for 935 pounds Sterling, 3,740 acres and fourteen perches, north of Lanesboro partly and partly north of Windsor, being a part of a grant of land to Aaron Willard. These 3,740 acres surrounded on three sides a rectangular parcel of ground containing 1,176 acres, once a part of No. 6 (Savoy). In 1762 the General Court awarded to Hatfield, as compensation for land included in Nos. 5 and 7, an equivalent on the west end of No. 6. Hatfield placed this in market, and there is found a conveyance of it in 1765, by Israel and William Williams, of Hatfield, and Israel Stoddard, of Pittsfield. On these 4,917 acres constituting the New Providence purchase, is found the first settlement of Cheshire town of today. Having purchased this tract as a speculation, they set about inducing men to buy and remove hither. Cook never came here to reside but Joseph Bennett did having first employed Captain Joab Stafford to survey and plat out their purchases into lots, thirty-three in number which was effected before October, 1766. The first purchase was made by Captain Stafford November 5, 1766; three lots of 396 acres, Numbers 5, 17, and 22. The next day Cook and Bennett made an equal division of the remaining land to themselves by a line running easterly through the center of the purchase. On the same day John Bucklin, of Coventry, Rhode Island, bought No. 1; Nathaniel Jacobs, of Providence, bought Nos. 7, 10, 11 and 25; Samuel Low, of Providence, three-fourths of No. 4; Simon Smith, of Providence, Nos. 2, 12, and 20.

Captain Joab Stafford attended the General Assembly at Newport, in May, 1762, as deputy from Coventry. In 1766 he was surveyor on Providence Hill. In 1778 he was colonel, empowered to warn some one to call the first town meeting in Adams. In 1801 he sold all his land in the New Providence purchase under such circumstances as to suggest that he had not made a fortune.

Of Nicholas Cook, leading purchaser, it is learned that he was one of the Court of Assistants in the Rhode Island colony from 1752 to 1761, and Deputy Governor in 1768-69. In 1761 he was chairman of a committee to raise by lottery six thousand pounds Sterling for paving the streets of Providence. Joseph Bennett was one of the six on this committee.

The foundation and maintenance of a church had much to do in forming the character and moulding of the life of subsequent Cheshire. Unlike other towns in Berkshire county, Cheshire had

no government land set off for the support of a church. What was done here was by the people for the love of a cause. For the most part these settlers were Baptists. A church was formed under Elder Peter Werden, Joab Stafford, Samuel Low, Joseph Bennett, John Day, John Lee, John Bucklin, Mercy Werden, Almy Low, Eunice Bennett, Betsy Read, Deliverance Nichols and Martha Lee. By 1772 this church had a membershhip of five hundred communicants. Rev. Werden was their pastor for forty years, dying in 1808. He was supported by a donation and the use of fifty acres, the gift of Nicholas Cook and Joseph Bennett.

Nothing is found concerning the Revolution in the Cheshire town records for the incorporation had not been effected until later. It is known, however, that forty-three men were furnished by the town in the War for Independence.

Being far from town centers on August 7, 1792, thirty men subscribed for a fund to pay the charges of a committee to the General Court touching the matter of incorporating. The petitioners from Adams, Lanesboro, New Ashford, and Windsor met in the brick schoolhouse in Lanesboro in September and a committee was sent to the General Court representatives. In October the same year, it was voted to have the town incorporated by the name of "Vernum" (possibly Vernon), and that Colonel Remington be authorized to call the town together. In April, 1793, he issued his warrant to Peleg Green.

A Universalist church was formed here in 1849; a Methodist Episcopal in 1844 by Rev. John Cadwell; a meeting-house was erected by this denomination in 1848-49.

Concerning mail facilities let it be said that after 1793, letters from the northern towns were directed aright, but sent to Pittsfield, and thence by private carriers and friendly neighbors to their destination. Cheshire postoffice was established January 22, 1810; John Leland, Jr., first postmaster.

From the first, Cheshire has been an agricultural town; extensive dairies have been conducted there. Here it was that the mammoth cheese sent to President Jefferson was made in 1802. The President shared his immense cheese with several of the governors of surrounding states.

Early in the history of the town fine glass-sand beds were discovered within the limits of the town and this led to the establishing of glass works known as the Cheshire Crown Glass Works which opened up in 1813. While the works were situated exactly

over as fine a glass-sand as could be asked for, the sand used in the works was drawn three miles, as the fact of sand beneath the works was unknown to anyone at that date. These glass works proved a failure to the proprietors and after a few years they closed down. Glass was made from sand from this town, however, in Sand Lake, New York and Keene, New Hampshire. It is a 99 per cent pure sand. No further glass making took place in Berkshire until after 1847, when works were established at Berkshire. Large works were built in 1853. Several companies have operated in glass and several failures have overtaken the works. The Cheshire Glass Company was organized in 1849 and produced much window glass.

Iron ore was discovered among the mountains of this town and in 1848 the Cheshire Iron Works were incorporated by James N. Richmond, George M. Well, Russell C. Brown and others.

The immense quantities of sand shipped to all parts of the country, created a demand for barrels so in 1855 there was erected a large saw and stave mill near the depot. The saw mill industry has been very great in this town. Millions of feet of lumber used to be sent to far away California, but of course that has long since ceased and now some of the shingles and other lumber used in New England, come by rail from California and Washington. Other industries in this town were the small cotton factory, the shoe factories, etc, which employed enough persons to occupy four hundred houses in Cheshire.

The present population of Cheshire is about 1,580. Its town officers are as follows: Town clerk, William E. Reagan; selectmen, H. N. Archibald, M.D., Martin Bickfors, Daniel L. Wood; treasurer, William E. Reagan; assessors, Henry N. Jenks, Russell W. Peticler, William E. Reagan; tree-warden, Byron Tracy; auditors, Thomas Delaney, Gustave Iverson; tax collector, William E. Reagan; superintendent of schools, Everett G. Loring. The assessors' report for 1924 shows: Valuation of all property assessed in town, $35,654; tax rate, $30 per thousand dollars.

The Big Cheese—The Rev. A. B. Whipple in a former history of Berkshire county, gave the following account of a very large cheese which has already been referred to above, and really the incident is of sufficient importance to be reproduced and kept intact in the annals of the county and town of Cheshire:

After the election of Thomas Jefferson to the Presidency, Elder John Leland, who was an acquaintance, a friend and a warm supporter of the

newly elected chief magistrate, conceived the project of sending to him a unique testimonial of the esteem in which he was held in Cheshire.

He accordingly proposed, from his pulpit, on the Sabbath, that on a certain day such as were so disposed should bring their milk, or the curd which it would make, to the cider mill of Captain John Brown to be made into a mammoth cheese, to be sent as a present to the President. A suitable hoop was prepared and placed on the cider press in the mill, and into this the curd was placed as it was brought by the contributors and after the proper preparation it was pressed by turning the screws, precisely as the people pressed their cider from pumice into which the apples had been converted. So liberally had the people responded to the invitation of Elder Leland that the cheese was found, when properly cured and dried, to weight sixteen hundred pounds. It was the largest cheese which had ever been made and nearly every family and cow in Cheshire had contributed toward it. It was not practical to take it to Washington on wheels, but about the middle of the following winter it was placed on a sleigh and driven to Washington by Elder Leland, who presented his people's gift to the President with an appropriate speech, to which Mr. Jefferson replied. In the course of his speech the President said: "I will cause this auspicious event to be placed on the records of our nation, and it will ever shine among its glorious archives. I shall ever esteem it among the most happy incidents of my life. And, now, my much respected reverend friend, I will, by the consent, and in the presence of my most honored council, have this cheese cut, and you will take back with you a portion of it, with my hearty thanks, and present it to your people, that you may all have a taste."

The great cheese and its reception had already been noised abroad and Elder Leland made a kind of triumphal march back to Cheshire.

Town of Lanesborough—One hundred and fifty-seven miles to the northwest of Boston is found the town of Lanesborough and five miles from Pittsfield by wagon road. It is bounded on the north by New Ashford, on the south by Pittsfield, while the west line separates it from Hancock along the ridge of the Taconics, and on the east an irregular line divides it from Cheshire and Dalton. It is six miles long by from three to six miles in width, a large portion of its original area having been ceded to Cheshire when that town was incorporated, in 1793. Strictly speaking the town is located in the upper part of the Housatonic Valley, comprising within its limits wooded heights, fruitful hillsides, and rich valleys which makes it one of the most charming towns within beautiful Berkshire county. That handsome water sheet known as Pontoosuc Lake, lies partly within this town.

Constitution and Farnum Hills, and Potter and Savage Mountains afford views when once seen are never to be forgotten. Balanced Rock, in the western part of the town, is a huge, three-cornered mass of Berkshire marble, grown gray by exposure, thirty

feet long by fifteen wide, so poised upon another rock, three feet from the ground, that while it can be made to vibrate it cannot be dislodged.

The soil of this town is a mixture of clay and loam. Forty years ago there were 97 well tilled farms in the town and 1,370 acres of woodland.

It now has a population of 1,054, or did have in 1920, when the last Federal census was taken. It had a postoffice established in 1801. Two miles to the east is the hamlet of Berkshire.

Its minerals are inclusive of marble and iron ore. When there were but few settlers within Berkshire, seventy-six citizens petitioned the General Court in Boston in the winter of 1741-42, for the grant of a township of wilderness land. They described the land they desired as "lying upon Osatunock alias Houseatanuck river near to an Indian town, northwardly from said town." Among the signers for a new town were: Samuel Jackson, Jonathan Barnett, Moses Learned, Benjamin Nourse, Jr., Francis Moquet, Col. Joseph Buckminster, Deacon Moses Pike, David Pratt, John Nourse, Jr., Daniel How, Alexander Drury, H. Rice, Jeremiah Belknap, Josiah Drury, Joseph Nichols, Rev. John Smith, John White, Caleb Bridges, John Bruner.

The petition prayed for was granted cheerfully on January 8, 1742, "allowed by a surveyor and chain man on oath to survey and lay out a township of the contents of six miles squair, adjoining on the north on the Indian town, so called lying on Housatanuc, or as near that place as the land will allow, not interfering with any former grant, and that they return the plat thereof to this Court within twelve months for conformation, and for the more effectual bringing forward the statement of the said town, etc., etc." October, 1742, a platting of the "Home Lots" had been made. The main road as shown on this plat does not materially differ from the highway of today. The site of the meeting-house and lot for the minister, are near the present Congregational church. Simply to carry out a custom, the name of "Richfield" was inserted in the grant until the Council should give it a legal name later on. The first town meeting was held in April, 1744 and the second in September the same year. King George's war lasting four years, greatly hindered the development of settlement in the township.

Nathaniel Willcocks came in from "Down Country" (Connecticut) about 1753, to Lanesborough, moving his family and goods

with an ox team. Then Pittsfield site was but a forest and swamp, and he was compelled to fell trees to get through, taking a number of days. Different generations of this family gave their name a different spelling as "Willcocks," "Willcox" and "Wilcox." During those trying days the little settlement held its own, roads were made, houses built, a fort erected opposite where Sidney Hubbell, Esq., later lived, and the busy inhabitants were making the wilderness to blossom like the rose and were ready to serve in the garrison at Pontoosuc when necessary, or to defend their families with the musket at home. In 1759 the conquest of Canada had made peace for the colonies certain, no more Indian attacks were to be expected, and New Framingham, (for the name Richfield does not appear in any legal document), began to attract settlers. The first meeting of the proprietors in the township is thus recorded: "Being met in said new Township at the Fort on the 2d day of May, 1759, adjourned to 23d. Isaac Hill was chosen moderator, and Samuel Martin proprietor's clerk, and Isaac Hill, treasurer.

It was in 1760 that church and schools were agitated and very much desired by the settlers. As near as shown by previous works, the following had made their settlements prior to 1761: William Bradley, James Goodrich, Thaddeus Curtis, Eben Squier, Nehemiah Bull, Samuel Warren, Moses Hale, Joseph Keeler, Beriah Dudley. These settlers are still well represented in the town and own much of the original lands taken by the pioneer families.

An act incorporating the town was dated January 20, 1765, the blank left for the name being filled with the word "Lanesborough". The first town officers were: The Rev. Samuel Todd, Dr. Francis Guiteau, and Moses Hale, selectmen and assessors; Samuel Warren, town treasurer; Miles Powell, constable; Thaddeus Curtis and Joseph Farnum, tithing men; Moses Hall and James Goodrich, wardens; Daniel Perry, sealer of leather; Nehemiah Bull, deer reeve; Justus Wheeler, James Loomis, and Miles Powell, hog reeves. It is not practical to attempt to give other town officers names except those of the present year (1925), the list of which is: Clerk, George B. Sturgis; treasurer, Richard S. Pritchard; selectmen, W. A. Akeroyd, Frank Armstrong, G. C. Bailey; assessors, W. E. Foster, H. C. Beers, Frank Armstrong; tax-collector, James G. Barnes; school committee, A. K. Sloper, Charles Chadwick, Henry Albert; constables, E. F. Bailey, James G. Barnes; library trustees, W. E. Foster, Mrs. Anna Sturgis, E. M. Whiting; tree

warden, Charles Newton; fence-viewers, Frank J. Rounds, F. Tatro; auditors, C. J. Palmer, James G. Barnes, R. S. Fellows.

January 1, 1925 the town had six schools in operation. The superintendent was Everett G. Loring.

The financial sheet for the town on January 1, 1925 showed assets amounting to $9,129. Liabilities, same amount. In reality the town was indebted to the amount of $987, on December 31, 1924.

The first representative of this town in the General Court, was Peter B. Curtis, chosen in May, 1772.

Like many towns in Berkshire county in the Revolution, a large majority of the people resident here were loyal to the American cause. However, there were some who clung to the English crown and these had to be watched and properly cared for—sometimes placed in jail.

There have been some changes with the flight of time, but in the main, the condition of affairs in this town differs but little from that observed forty years ago when a historian wrote as follows: "During the past few years the history of the town is that of a quiet, intelligent farming community. Business has gone largely to other fields and to cities. The center of population has drifted southward. There is one main village, with a hotel, postoffice, one store and the church buildings of the Congregational, Baptist, and Methodist societies, the town hall, built in 1827, and many dwellings extending along the main highway."

Squire Shaw built a home and reared his family here. His son Henry W., born in 1818, in this town, became the well-known humorous writer, known as "Josh Billings," who commenced his literary and "funny writings" in 1863 and soon was in great demand as both writer and lecturer. It was this man who wrote "Id ruther hav a ten dollar bill than all the sympathy on the bottom side of the uth."

October, 1761 the first steps were taken toward forming the Congregational church, as per conditions laid in the land title when the town was incorporated. The church was always supported by taxation in those days and not by voluntary subscriptions as now.

The first Episcopal church was organized about 1767 and a chapel soon provided. The Baptist church here was organized February, 1818, Governor Briggs being one of the members. The Methodist Episcopal church had occasional services here, but

no regular preaching or class establishment until the winter of 1863 when a great revival was had in the vicinity and later they organized a church and built a good edifice.

The village of Berkshire is situated in the eastern part of this town. Its postoffice was established in 1853. There the glass works were early started. This place is a station on the Boston & Albany railroad. Marble from the quarries round about has long been a source of wealth. Much of the marble in the capitol at Albany came from this village. Material for the old capitol in 1808 as well as for the present building, came from these quarries. The marble and brick industries here have been long and favorably known.

To be a resident of this town is to be within a highly cultured, practical community of Americans who have always performed their share in developing Berkshire county.

The Town of Windsor—Here among the Windsor Hills, long before Governor Carter was the first magistrate, the Indians were wont to come to their summer hunting grounds. As the whites increased in the valley of the Housatonic, the red men came less frequently. In various parts of this town the smoke of the log cabins had acquired the poetic curve long before the mountain range from Vermont to Connecticut, "in the April showers of 1761, had been christened Berkshire."

In June, 1762 a committee in the General Court at Boston, reported selling nine townships and 10,000 acres lying in Hampshire, on certain conditions. One record says "Sold the 2d day of June, 1762, at the Royal Exchange Tavern on King street—No. 4 to Noah Nash for 1,430 pounds and have received of him 20 pounds taken as with his bond together with Oliver Partridge, Thomas Morey, William Williams, and Josiah Chauncy for 1,410 pounds." June 10, 1762 H. Gray signs as treasurer for the payment of the above amount. Another account, however, says that Noah Nash deeded to David Parsons of certain right of land in the new township known as Williamsburgh, formerly called Dewey's town, or Bigott's town, alias No. 4. These names were given the place by earlier settlers, with their respective names. No. 4 indicated the order of land sale.

The first log cabin within the town was near where later the saw mill was located and operated by J. L. White, two miles west of Windsor Hill. After 1777 this log house was used as a pest house. The records of this town are complete and show that Elihu

Williams was authorized to call a town meeting in a town by the name of Gageborough. A meeting was held at the house of John Hall, innholder, August 27. Leicester Grosvenor was chosen clerk and John Hall moderator. It is believed that the town was called Gageborough when incorporated, July 2, 1771, in honor of Governor Thomas Gage. For political reasons, later on the town discarded the name Gageborough and called it Windsor in 1778, from Windsor, Connecticut. In the great struggle for national independence, this town was fully up with the most patriotic. The resolution of the Committee of Safety, November 25, 1776, declared "The vote relative to the forming of a system of government for this State is agreeable to the inhabitants of this town and that the town committee manifest their approbation of said votes in the convention of Committees of the county of Berkshire to be held in Stockbridge the 19th instant."

Hardly three weeks had passed before people with one accord "vote that Captain Leicester Grosvenor, William Hatfield, and Captain William Clark to be a committee to apportion upon the inhabitants the duty which each man ought to do in support of the American arms against the common enemy of our country, in which they are to have regard to services already done." A bounty of ten dollars was paid the volunteers who went into the army from this township. The families of soldiers in the "Continental Army" (as they loved to be called) were cared for by the community generally.

In May, 1778, a new constitution having been drafted and sent to Gageborough, after careful reading in town meetings, it was rejected by a majority of eighty-seven. In September, 1778, "Voted to receive Ashuelot Equivalent to be incorporated with the town of Gageborough also to give the town a new name and adopted Windsor."

Leaving the question of Revolutionary war, let us go to the civic and religious history of the town. The history of the Congregational church was interwoven largely with the civil history of the town. By requirement, a learned Protestant minister should have been settled as early as June, 1767, but at that time only four purchases of land are recorded; in 1773, sixteen purchases, some of whom settled here. In September, 1772, "voted to build a meeting-house and to set it on Bradford's Hill." During that year the church was organized with ten members. The first pastor was Rev. David Avery, a graduate of Yale College. After serv-

ing four years he asked release to become chaplain, and served as such four years, then settled as a minister in Bennington. Rev. Gordon Dorrance was ordained and remained pastor thirty-nine years, beginning in 1795. Among other articles of church regulation one in 1813 read as follows: "Also voted that the pastor is esteemed no more than that of any private brother; and that it is his duty to faithfully record the votes of the church, however contrary they may be to his private opinion." Having thus founded this church and seen that it was properly sustained, its history has been fraught with its ups and downs, as in all societies even to the present day.

The Baptist church was legally organized May 5, 1805, with forty-one members. It was to be known as "Baptist Society in Windsor." A meeting-house was erected in 1819 and the membership was then 264—all men except *one widow*. This church formed a majority of the voters in the town. The society dwindled to fourteen members and in 1851 went down.

Since then various denominations have kept alive the Church spirit and the effects of both good churches and excellent country schools have been the general rule within Windsor town.

Farming—The closing paragraph of an historical account of this town in 1885 reads as follows: "As a farming town, with but few mechanics shops or mills, the changes must be few. Saw mills and grist mills disappear, but farms remain. As they grow less productive two or more farms are united, or some of them are allowed to revert to the forests; and as a consequence, the population decreases year by year. The changes which such causes produce may be inferred by a thoughtful perusal of these closing statistics: Population in 1790, 916; 1800, 961; 1810, 1,108; 1820, 1185; 1830, 1,042; 1840, 872; 1850, 897; 1860, 839; 1870, 686; 1880, 614."

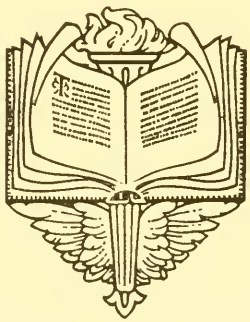
The 1920 United States census reports gives this town a population of 403. This shows the theory of the writer of the above paragraph to be not without good foundation.

The present (1924) town officers of Windsor are as follows: Hattie Galusha, auditor; W. J. Gray, constable; J. F. Leslie, assessor; A. L. Turner, assessor; A. S. Ferry, treasurer; A. L. Turner, collector; C. S. Galusha, town clerk; W. C. Estes, Board of Health and Overseer of the Poor; selectmen, W. C. Estes, C. H. Ball D. A. Cady.

The treasurer's reports show that in 1924 the receipts and payments of the town amounted to $34,521.99. The amount of

cash on hand December 31, 1924 was $2,559.16. The assessed valuation was $433,673.00. The statistics show for 1924 horses, 153; cows, 396; sheep, 64; other cattle, 173; swine, 9; houses, 147; fowl, 1,310.

The amount spent for teachers of public schools in the town in 1924, was $3,332.50 The amount spent for local transportation of the sixty pupils attending school was $3,228.62. This means $100 per pupil annually which is a singular state of public affairs, and is so mentioned by the author—the town clerk—in his last annual report.



CHAPTER XV

CENTRAL TOWNS OF THE COUNTY

Some of the readers of this work may be interested in having the historian trace the various steps which finally brought about the incorporation of present "Town of Dalton." State histories tell us that before the year 1739, the territory of which the town of Dalton is composed, as well as all the lands embraced in the present southern tiers of towns in New Hampshire and Vermont was claimed by Massachusetts with a very strong showing of being correct in her claims. But during that year the British Privy Council rendered its decision against Massachusetts thus awarding New Hampshire the disputed territory.

Many large forest tracts were held for speculation. An honest course was taken toward actual settlers. Among those who were in this disputed strip were Oliver Partridge and others, of Hatfield, in Hampshire county, who had obtained a grant of a township in the southwest corner of what is now the state of New Hampshire, which took the name of Lower Ashuelot, there being also an Upper Ashuelot township on the same stream. When nearly two centuries ago, the Hatfield company selected here their equivalent for their lost lands on the Ashuelot river, in New Hampshire, it of course lay in the forest. Whether the selection was made with the great water-power in view or not is not known, but likely this was not fully appreciated. But Col. Partridge and his associates took a good look into future business, and it is to be observed that their original choice on the Ashuelot is rich in water-power, and that in laying out the township, which took the name of The Ashuelot Equivalent, they gave the unusual proportions of 4.10 miles in length by three in breadth, including what has since been incorporated in the town of Hinsdale; and that within it is some of the best water in Berkshire county.

The dimensions of this grant made in 1743, as an equivalent for the loss of the Lower Ashuelot township, are given in the patent as 1,571 rods long by 760 wide, with the exceptions of 300 acres in the northeast corner which had previously been granted to Andrew Stone containing 9,423 acres.

Settlement commenced here in 1754-55, but on account of Indian difficulties but little was accomplished until the spring of

1760. The first settlers included the Chamberlains, Merrimans, Lawrences, Boardmans, Greens, Gallups, Atwoods, and Parks.

The "New plantation of Ashuelot Equivalent" was incorporated as the Town of Dalton by an act of the Legislature March 20, 1784. It was named in honor of the then speaker of the House of Representatives Hon. Tristram Dalton. Later he was a United States Senator from Massachusetts. The act of incorporation required Charles Goodrich, of Pittsfield to issue his warrant to some prominent inhabitant of the Equivalent directing him to call the first meeting. The warrant was directed to Deacon Williams, and the first meeting was held at the inn of Dr. Perez Marsh, April 19th, when the moderator was Joseph Chamberlain and clerk, William Williams. By the act of incorporation it was bounded on the north by Windsor, on the west by Lanesboro and Pittsfield, on the east by Partridgefield and Jones grant to the north line of Washington and thence on the same line of Pittsfield. The territory thus named was about five miles long by three wide, comprising what is now the busy manufacturing part of the town. In the portion of Windsor next adjoining it there was some excellent woodland.

During Shays' Rebellion Dalton town suffered more than many others in Berkshire county.

No portion of these lands were reserved for the support of the churches and schools as was the usual custom. From the incorporation of the town nearly $150 was voted each year "to hire preaching."

The Methodist Episcopal denomination introduced itself in this town in 1788 and soon gained a strong foothold, especially in the south portion.

A Congregational church was established in Dalton, February 16, 1785, but owing to a required rule in the incorporation no minister was provided until several years later. The first meeting-house was erected in 1795-6. Rev. James Thompson was the first pastor. The story of "church troubles" here, is all too lengthy to now narrate. It may be added that "The Methodist Religious Society of Pittsfield, Hancock, Dalton and Washington," was incorporated in May, 1804. In 1840 Dalton was only a society in a large circuit, but were then able to build a church edifice costing $1,400. The first Sunday School here was formed in 1826. Since 1840 Dalton was made a station and has been supplied with a pastor ever since. Prior to 1861 the Catholics were transported

Byron Weston

alternately to and from Pittsfield to church services by the mill owners of Dalton. St. Agnes Church was completed in 1882-83, costing $17,000. From then on the Catholic people have had a church of their own in Dalton.

The first attempt at having a public library in Dalton was in 1852 when a dozen gentlemen of the town formed a voluntary library association and bought three hundred books which were placed in the town hall. Ever since then the town has aided the library and now has a most highly appreciated library. The number of its books is now 15,031, or was so given December 31, 1924. Number fiction books read last year, 20,678. Present librarian, Miss Gladys C. Greene. Walter C. Reed, president.

The water works system was established by the aid of Lieutenant-Governor Weston, after spending several years in looking up the source of springs and creeks. Finally the finest quality of water was discovered two miles north of the village in Egypt Brook. In February, 1884, a fire district was established and obtained a charter in April, 1884, during which year the water works were commenced. That fall water was gushing from the pipes leading from a reservoir holding 3,250,000 gallons. It is 255 feet higher than the bridge in the center of the village, thus giving sufficient pressure without engines. These works only cost $46,678 to complete them.

Good local government has been the rule in Dalton. The spirit of progress and modern-day improvements has seized the people and the passer-by cannot but see the result of wise local officers, very well backed by the tax-payers. The 1924 town officers were: Town clerk, John O. Keig, whose term expires in 1927; treasurer, George W. Smith, term expires in 1925; selectmen, Thomas H. Mooney, H. A. Meacham, and W. R. Pratt; school committee, Albert L. Allen, Andrew Canavan, Fred G. Crane, Jr.; superintendent of schools, H. L. Allen; assessors, J. J. Kelley, James E. Bardin, Dwight Burr; tax-collector, Harry A. Tower; auditor, John H. Bellows.

The United States census report for 1920 gave Dalton a population of 3,752. Its churches include the Roman Catholic, Congregationalist, Methodist and the Episcopal denominations. All have good edifices. The banking interests are well supplied by the Dalton Branch of the City Savings Bank of Pittsfield. The Community Hall was finished in 1923 at a cost of nothing to the village, as it was donated by United States Senator W. M. Crane, of the

paper-mill family of Cranes. This fine red pressed brick structure was dedicated November, 1923 with one thousand present. Ex-Governor Brumbaugh, of Pennsylvania, delivered the address. This bequest was a result of Mr. Crane's father, who calculated to erect a hall for men to call home when not at work in his mills, but this serves a still greater use, as it has gymnasium, bowling alley, pool tables, dancing hall, ladies parlors and many excellent features. It is near the village or town hall.

The Young Men's Christian Association formed many years ago in 1909 dedicated its magnificent brick building near the town hall. Since the Community Building has been used for the older members of the "Y," the Y. M. C. A. building, proper, is used exclusively for youths under eighteen years of age. The town hall and public library both occupy the same building.

The Great Paper Industry—Whoever has had an occasion to buy, sell or use paper, especially fine grades of letter paper and printer's bond stock, must have heard of the Dalton Paper Mills—the Crane's mills, the Weston's mills, etc. The space allotted for this sketch is far too small to give other than a brief statement concerning these wonderful mills that are turning out their multiplied thousands of tons annually, for which figures see later.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century was ushered in a new era for many portions of the country. Here in Dalton the great advent was in the introduction of paper-making which has long since become famous throughout the country. The pioneer of this work was Zenas Crane, founder of the family, members of which have been important factors in this country. Zenas Crane was born May 9, 1777, son of Stephen Crane. Zenas Crane when old enough to go for himself, entered his brother's paper mill at Newton, where he learned the rudiments of paper-making, then went to Worcester, where he finished his business education in the mill of General Burbank, an exacting, though very competent master.

For many years after 1800, each little mill gathered its rags from a small circuit immediately around itself, and depended largely upon the same region as a market for its products. So far as it had the skill it made all the then known grades of writing, printing, and wrapping paper. The proprietors were forced to turn their hands to anything which would bring present pay, however much frequent changes hindered their general progress.

As has been well said by an earlier historian:

It was with a fair knowledge of this and other difficulties which lay in the way that young Zenas Crane mounted his horse at Worcester in the summer of 1799, and rode westward in search of a site upon which to build his mill and if possible his fortunes. At Springfield he found the papermill founded by Eleazer Wright, probably before 1787, and afterward made famous by David Ames & Sons. Beyond that there was no mill of this class until the Hudson river was reached; none southward above southern Connecticut, nor on the north except in central Vermont. Nearly in the center of this large region, unoccupied by any of his craft, Mr. Crane found a site in which were combined all the requisites which could be desired for this purpose. It was not far from the center of the town of Dalton and of Berkshire county. Here, in narrow romantic gorge or glen, was a waterfall upon the east branch of the Housatonic river, which has since been made a power of far greater capacity than Zenas Crane ever expected to demand of it. This, however, was at that time of comparatively small consideration. Water falls were abundant in those days, and not very costly.

There was another point, and the most essential one, in which this location and all others in Dalton are unrivalled. The whole Western slope of the Dalton Valley, as well as most of its bottom and much of its other surroundings, is geologically a purely silicious formation out of which gushed many springs, as free from any injurious mineral combination as natural water ever is. The most eminent chemists after analysis as strict as possible for them to make, pronounced the water, even in its mountain lakelets and in the streamlets which dash down its mountain sides, as near an approach to chemically distilled water as nature ever gives us. The adjoining town of Pittsfield now prides itself upon receiving its water supply from these crystal hills instead of drinking from its own iron and lime impregnated wells.

In 1799 the peculiarity of different waters had attracted little general attention; but it is certain that Zenas Crane did not forget so important an element in his calculations, for he needed to go but five miles further west to find, in Pittsfield, equally good water-power, in a location more convenient to his markets, and in a community then just awakening to the home value of manufacturing enterprise, and eager to aid any feasible project in that direction; but the water there was loaded with deleterious substances, fatal to paper-making.

But even in other respects the locality was favorable to his venture. Dalton then had a population of 950, more than half living within its present (1885) limits; the county of Berkshire had 34,000, while a prosperous section of Hampshire lay nearer to Dalton than to Springfield. Outside the State the nearest rival mills were at Hartford, Troy, and Bennington. It might well have been expected that a region indicated by these limits, especially as it had two newspapers, would furnish material for and absorb the product of a one-vat paper mill, leaving but little to seek in a wider market by way of Albany.

The cost of living in Dalton was small, and workmen had few temptations to extraordinary expenditures, except in the many taverns, the seductions of which indeed were sufficiently potent.

Such was the location which, in the summer of 1799, Zenas Crane

selected for the first paper mill in Massachusetts, west of the Connecticut river; a section in which some of the best paper in the world is now made, and more in one hour than one of the early mills could supply in a year. The mill, however, was not actually built until the spring of 1801, as appears from the following curious advertisement in the "Pittsfield Sun" of February 8 in that year:

Americans!
Encourage your own manufacturers and they will improve—
Ladies, Save Your Rags.

The thing had been accomplished—a paper mill was running. The building erected was a one-vat mill, its main part being two stories high, the upper being used as a drying loft. It had a daily capacity of twenty "posts." Each post was one hundred and twenty-five sheets of paper; the size in this case being folio for printing paper and foolscap for writing. By weight the daily product was from 100 to 125 pounds. The skilled workmen were an engineer at $3.00 per week; a vat man at $3.50 per week; one additional man and two girls at seventy-five cents per week, and a lay boy at six cents, all being boarded. After a few months Mr. Crane, who had a partner, was given $9.00 per week as a general superintendent.

The second paper mill in this county was at Lee, in 1806, by Samuel Church. The third in Berkshire, and second in Dalton was built by Joseph Chamberlain in 1809. Without entering into detail, it may be said that the following all took an active part in building up the paper industry in this county: Messrs. David Carson, Chamberlain and Wiswell and the several Cranes, with Byron Weston.

It was in 1879 that the Crane mills were awarded the contract for supplying the United States government with all the paper which it requires for its national bank bills, bonds, certificates, and treasury notes. They purchased the old Colt paper mill plant, in the town of Pittsfield in order to properly fill the government orders. Hence it has since been styled "The Government Mill." It was Zenas Marshall Crane who in 1846 conceived the idea of introducing into the fiber of bank bills silken threads in numbers representing their respective denominations that the fraudulent raising of their values from a lower to a higher grade might be prevented. This system still obtains in making our paper money and the Crane Company still holds exclusive contracts.

While the Crane family have always been foremost in the paper

industry there have been others who have been almost their equal. The Weston Paper Company of which former Governor Byron Weston was the head, are known for the superior products in fine papers. So much so that their papers took the prizes at the great world's expositions at Philadelphia, Paris, in Australia and this part of the globe generally where exhibited.

The first woolen mill in Dalton was built by Rev. Isaiah Weston, in 1814. Times have changed since then. An early writer says—"When John Curtis was a boy of ten years, he drove the oxen which drew the lumber for this mill; his father received one dollar per thousand feet for cutting and drawing it. The canal was dug by British prisoners of war from the Pittsfield Cantonment, these men being permitted to earn money while prisoners and worked on their good behavior. Mr. Weston carried on this mill until his death in 1821. Here large amounts of broad cloth were made.

At the present time (1925) the only figures accessible as to the output of paper in Dalton are what have been given out by the Crane Company which are as follows: Crane Company established in 1801; output approximately three thousand tons annually; employees about five hundred; three paper mill plants—one at Dalton, one at Pittsfield and one at Westfield. These mills are specialized mills, each making its own grade of fine paper.

Town of Peru—This is one of the towns of the Green Mountain range. Actual settlers were slow about entering this town, as it was deemed a cold, bleak, barren, mountainlike section. Oliver Partridge, of Hatfield, and Elisha Jones of Weston, purchased, June 2, 1762, sixty-three settling lots of township No. 2. Others came in and in 1771 the first town meeting was called by Justice of the Peace W. M. Williams, Deacon Nathan Fiske being the moderator. At this meeting it was "voted to hear Mr. Tracy preach a longer time," and chose a committee to confer with him about preaching. Thus it appears that the pioneers here were of a spiritual and religious nature. The man Tracy above named was finally called and served as pastor. The first schools seem to have been organized in 1772. October, 1774 it was voted "that money necessarily expended out of this town in trying to suppress the late acts of the British Parliament shall be paid by this town." Among the earliest settlers to respond to the call for Minute Men was Nathan Watkins, whose muster roll of April 22, 1775, had forty names, of whom fifteen were from Partridgefield. Throughout the strife this town was active in support of the American

cause. In 1803 the town consented to a division by incorporation the new part to be known as West Parish which was only two-fifths of Partridgefield town. In 1805 there was a move to name the town Troy; and in April, 1806, the selectmen were made a committee to choose three names for the town and present them at their next meeting. May 5, they petitioned to be called Peru. Rev. John Leland had long complained of the name "Partridgefield." This time he suggested Peru, as it was a mountain region of South America. Thus the name Peru became permanent for soon the Legislature changed it from its former too-long name.

The present (1924) town officers of Peru are as follows: Town clerk and treasurer, F. G. Creamer; selectmen, overseers of the poor, F. G. Creamer, Ralph Blake; assessors, John Dixon and W. P. Smith; also Robert Cornwall; tree warden, Ed Kelly; auditor, Francis Cornwall; tax-collector, F. G. Creamer.

The assets and liabilities of the town in 1924 were $2,402 in assets and $1,000 in liabilities, with balance in favor of the town, $1,402. Total valuation of town, $315,000; real estate, $269,000; personal property, $46,233; tax-rate per thousand dollars, $13.00; number of polls assessed, 46; number dwellings, 63; horses, 60; cows, 83; neat cattle, 33; swine, 5; fowls, 240; number acres, 15,826.

Town of Hinsdale—By the request of the people of what is now Hinsdale and Peru towns (or old No. 2) the West Parish of Partridge was formed June 23, 1795. Its early history will be found with that of Peru. The first parish meeting was held September 21st. For twenty-two years settlers had been locating in various parts of this town; the first perhaps were three Miller brothers, Francis, Daniel, and Thomas, from Connecticut. Francis was a surveyor for the government of the road from Boston to Albany and so adherent to his oath of loyalty that at the commencement of the Revolution he returned to England. Five sons of Joseph Watson came. Also the Torrey brothers, Nathan and Wilson. In April, 1772, Nathan Fish purchased of Oliver Partridge 221 acres for eighty pounds Sterling, and built there a corn mill, and the next year a saw mill, about one mile south of the Ashmere Reservoir. Samuel Watkins later owned this milling interest. At about the same date a mill was built at Wahconah Falls, just over the line in Hinsdale town, to which there was a bridle path. In 1781 came Richard Starr, whose monument, erected by the parish, attests his services both in church and civil matters.

Rev. Stephen Tracy and Rev. John Leland were first to preach in this part of the county. In about 1783 a society was incorporated and a small church erected in which to worship. When the pews were sold at public auction a resolution was passed to "provide plenty of liquor for the vendue (auction)," which was believed to stimulate the bidders!

In 1803 a second petition was presented for an act of incorporation to the Legislature, asking for a town name also. Hinsdale was suggested in honor of Rev. Theodore Hinsdale, who had donated a $300 church bell. Hinsdale was recognized as a legal town of Berkshire county on July 30, 1804. About two-fifths of Partridgefield was included in the limits of the newly created town. July, 1817, William A. Hawley was ordained pastor of the Congregational church and served until 1841. In less than two years after the organization of the Congregational church the Baptist denomination took action and soon organized, the date being April, 1797, and the charter members consisted of eight women and nine men.

With the passing of decades this town has grown with others in the county and its citizens have performed their share in advancing the interests of the commonwealth.

The United States census for 1920 gave the town a population of 1,065.

The 1924-25 town officers are as follows: Selectmen, T. J. O'-Leary, Louis T. Sherman, Edward Blake; town clerk, Mrs. Cora Lovell; tax-collector, William Collins; treasurer, William Doherty; assessors, George F. O'Leary, Harry Parker, William E. Morgan; auditor, Clifford E. Robinson; tree warden, James McGill; superintendent of schools, George Spaulding; forest warden, Alfred N. Warren; meat inspector, Alfred N. Warren; pound keeper, Ralph Bellinger.

Hinsdale public and private schools have sent forth to the world many educated, useful men and women. The Hinsdale Academy was incorporated April, 1848, by a stock company with a capital of $20,000. This continued many years. The buildings finally were utilized for public school purposes.

The public library called Library Hall has been of great value for the students of the town. This was made possible by the donation made by members of the Plunkett family. In 1885 this library contained 4,000 books and a splendid building and lands. With the passing years the town has kept this property intact.

Town of Richmond—Richmond has its natural attraction in a pleasant fertile valley, enclosed by hills on the east and west; and on the northwest is Perry's Peak, from the summit of which, 2,077 feet above the Hudson river, the valley may be seen in all its sublime beauty. Through its lovely valleys flow on toward the sea numerous small streams.

This territory was originally styled "No. 8," it being the eighth township of land sold in this land district. It was sold at auction June 2, 1762, and the bill of sale described it as "No. 8 a township to begin at the southwest corner of Pittsfield, thence to run south as far as the north line of Stockbridge, from thence on a straight line to Stockbridge northeast corner, thence to extend westerly on Stockbridge line so far as to make the contents of six miles square, exclusive of the grants already laid out to Josiah Dean, for two thousand five hundred pounds, and have received of him twenty pounds and taken bond from him for 2,530 pounds." Lenox and Richmond were included in this tract. Richmond is supposed to have been named for Duke of Richmond, a great-grandson of Charles II. Another account questions the town's being named as above stated.

In 1767 the town was divided, and the eastern valley was named Lenox, the family name of the Duke of Richmond. The present territory embraced within Richmond is only four and one-half square miles. It is largely an agricultural town, but has two beds of iron ore where in the eighties fifty men had employment at taking out the mineral which was then being worked by the Richmond Iron Company. This was organized in 1829 and incorporated in 1842. At first this company operated only one furnace, that in Richmond; but in 1842 one in Van Deusenville was added, and in 1863 another at Cheshire. In all their works forty years ago, there were 700 men employed and an annual product of 12,000 tons of iron produced. This town has no village other than Richmond postoffice and its station on the Boston & Albany railroad. The postoffice was established in 1806. Richmond Furnace also had a postoffice in the southwestern part of the town; also some stores and shops.

The United States census for 1920 gives the population of this town as being 561.

The church was among the first things to be thought of in early days and the date of settlement was never far from the erecting of some kind of house of worship. The first authorized

meeting of the town had much to do also with the affairs of a proposed church society. A meeting-house was soon built in each part of the town, each 35 by 40 feet in size. They stood where later stood the churches in Lenox and Richmond. Early in December, 1882, the old church, built in 1795, was burned with all its modern and costly improvements. (What is now known as the Congregational church, was organized in 1824). After the fire a new church edifice was soon provided.

Methodism began operation here in 1817 and built in 1825 three-fourths of a mile from the center. This building was still in use in the late eighties.

The present town officers of Richmond are as follows: Clerk and treasurer, R. C. Williams; selectmen, Charles D. Benton, Robert P. Coleman, J. H. Fairfield; assessors, Lewis A. Reynolds, Robert P. Coleman, M. H. Chapman; registrars, Charles D. Benton, Robert P. Coleman, J. H. Fairfield; tax-collector, William H. Terrell; librarian, Miss Ida H. Barnes; tree warden, John H. Fairfield; forest warden, Timothy B. Salmon; auditors, L. P. Russell, Horace Mann.

The town now owns the following road machinery—Crusher, oiler, roller, four-horse road machine, two-horse road machine, plows and other small tools. The assets of the town in 1925 are $4,342.80. The liabilities amount to $8,235. The figures are from the report made by selectmen. The same report shows the expenses for the public schools for 1924 were $11,182.45. This includes a balance on hand of about $400.00.

Town of Lenox—The first white man to locate in this part of Berkshire county was Jonathan Hinsdale, born in Hartford, Connecticut, 1724, and died January, 1811. When he erected his small house near the foot of the Court House Hill there were scarcely a dozen white families north of Stockbridge, in what is now Berkshire county. He loved the wilderness and was charmed by the "green glad solitude" found in new countries. After a lonely winter of hard toil he was joined in the spring by a Mr. Cooper and a little later by Messrs. Stephens and Dickinson. It must have been a gloomy spot in which to live as noted by the following words from a former writer of Berkshire history who says: "They were connected with the outer world only by the rough road that wound from Sheffield up through Barrington and Stockbridge. An unknown forest stood around them, into whose gloomy

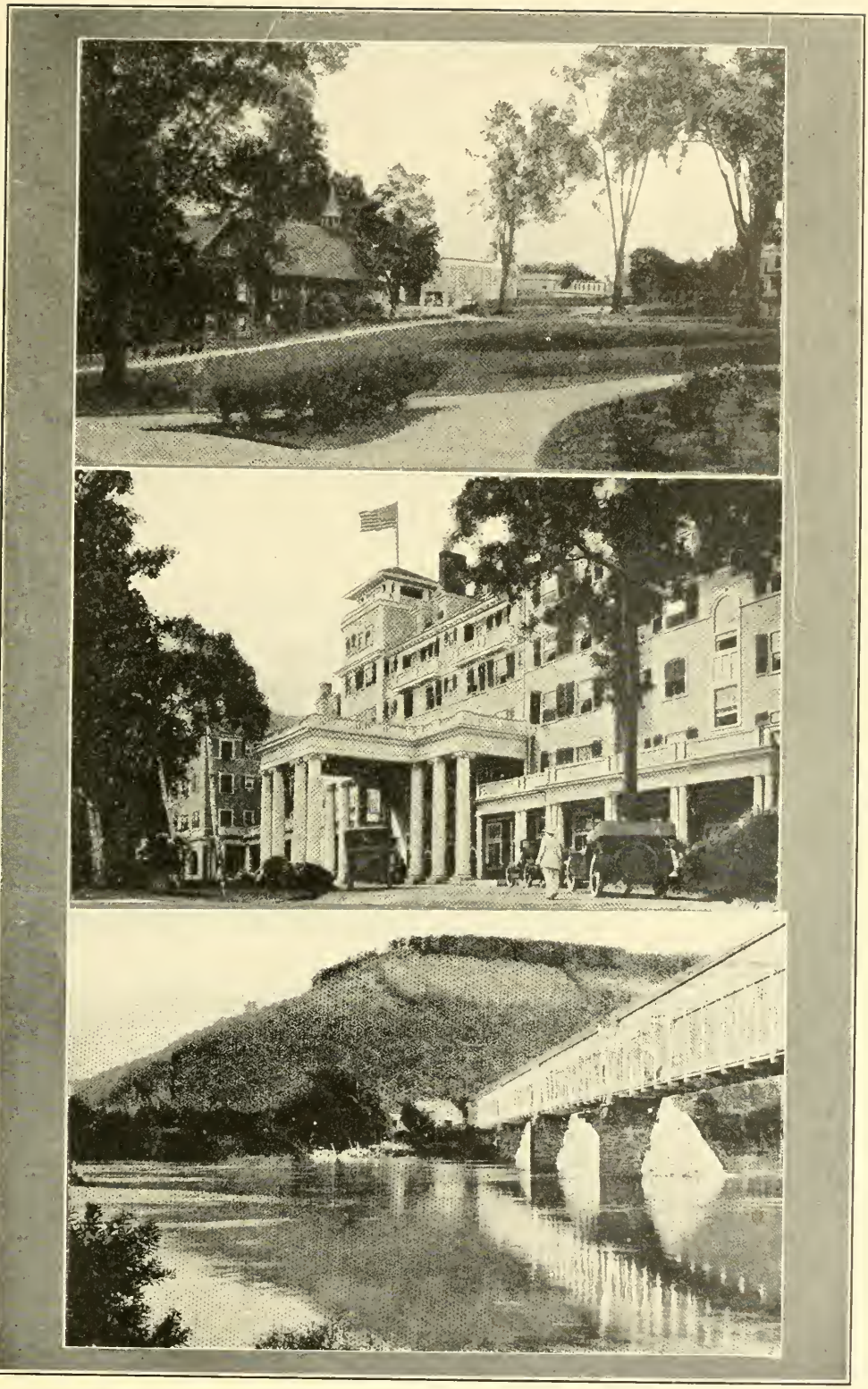
depths stole narrow Indian trails. Often from this dense forest came the howling wolves following frightened deer. Sometimes when pressed by hunger, these wild animals came forth from their coverts in the woods and attacked sheep in the fold, and made the mothers anxious to keep their little children close by home. As late as 1782 Lenox was so disturbed by wolves that a bounty of forty shillings, was voted for each one killed. The town records shows that in 1774 Lenox annually elected officers called "deer-reeves" whose duty it was to force the law against killing any moose or deer, between December 21 and August 11.

"The land in all this region, as far west as the Westfield river, was at that time claimed by the Stockbridge Indians, but was not settled by them much north of Stockbridge."

The Indians were treated well and sought the teachings of good white missionaries. The Indians claimed title to these lands, yet it was questioned by some of the pioneer white men. The provincial government advertised to sell at auction ten townships of Indian land, June 2, 1762. The Indians objected to this and petitioned for a stay until they might bring in their evidence, but the whites would not listen to this but ordered the sale to proceed. In order to "make the red man feel better" they were paid out of the public treasury one thousand pounds Sterling for their use, provided such Indians would release all claim to any lands of the province to which they pretended a title.

At that public sale Township No. 8, including the present townships of Richmond and Lenox, was bought by Josiah Dean for 2,550 pounds Sterling. At a later date in order to satisfy the Indians more money was paid them. Originally the part of the township called Richmond was known as Mt. Ephraim and the part now known as Lenox was called Yokuntown, after the two Indian chiefs with whom the whites had to deal.

In January, 1764, an act was passed incorporating the purchasers of the plantation of Yokuntown and Mt. Ephraim into "one distinct Property" to enable them to have a local government—really a kind of inferior "town." The first meeting of the early proprietors was held at the house of John Chamberlain in Mt. Ephraim, April 17, 1764, when twenty-five pounds were voted "to hire preaching." In May that year two churches were started and then a bitter contention arose. The plantation was long divided by a mountain range. All of the settlers could not well worship in one house.



LENOX

HYDE PARK THE ASPINWALL BRIDGE, CONNECTICUT RIVER—SUNDERLAND

Soon after the incorporation or formation of the town, the matter of schools and churches was before the people. Rev. Samuel Munson was the first called to preach. Much strife ensued before the location of a building site could be settled. Among the later pastors here was the long since popular Doctor of Divinity, C. H. Parkhurst, of New York City, who resigned in this town in 1880 for a wider field of usefulness.

The Baptists and Methodists were early in this field, but not in sufficient numbers to allow them to receive public tax aid as did the "regular church"—the Congregationalist.

St. Ann's Roman Catholic church was established in Lenox, as a mission from Pittsfield in 1852.

Nor was Lenox slow in her performance of military duty during the Revolutionary War. Not all, however, upheld the idea of an independent country, and this minority had to be kept down and watched all the long eight eventful years of the strife for freedom. Again in the stormy days of the Civil War, the town was alive to Union of States and the ladies here worked with the Soldier's Aid Society from 1861 on the full four years of the war period and sent many boxes of clothing, bandages and preserved fruits to the sick in battle-field hospitals.

Agriculture has always been the main occupation of the people of this town. Caleb Hyde was one of the petitioners in 1811, for the incorporation of the "Berkshire County Agricultural Society." The first farmers' club in the county was organized by Lenox and Stockbridge men, in 1846.

A postoffice was established here in 1800 and that season the first marble quarry was begun. The first mill for sawing marble was built by Nathan Barrett. At Lenox Furnace, a village in the south part of Lenox, are the remains of the old Lenox Iron Company's works. Glass and iron works were scattered here and there over this and adjoining towns at an early date, but in recent times have been allowed to be abandoned. The same is true of lumbering and milling industries. When the forests abounded as much as 400,000 feet of native lumber was cut by the mills of this town annually.

The schools here have kept apace the times and many a youth has had his educational start from the humble schoolrooms of Lenox. John Collins, one of the first four to graduate from Williams College, was from this town. Lenox Academy was in-

corporated in 1803 and many years stood high among the schools of the commonwealth. For many years an excellent school for young ladies was conducted in Lenox, by Mrs. Sedgwick, and among her pupils was Charlotte Cushman.

Other chapters have mentioned much concerning the early county seat matters here, the holding of courts, etc.

As early as 1840 this town had become noted as quite a summer resort place and many families came out from Boston and New York to spend the heated term. Not less than forty families were here in 1840. The population in 1820 was 1,315; today it is 2,691. The Lenox Library was being promoted with zeal in 1828. The Berkshire Medical Society met at Lenox in 1828 and voted that "As a medicine ardent spirits are more frequently used as a convenience than a necessity," and that "we shall not hereafter consider it a mark of civility or hospitality to be invited to partake of this insidious and baneful poison." Signed by President Alfred Perry and Secretary Robert Worthington. Great anti-slavery meetings were held at Lenox and noted speakers and lecturers frequently were employed here. The 1876 Centennial was observed in an interesting manner in Lenox. Judge Rockwell delivered the address. Fully one thousand persons were seated at dinner.

January 9, 1874, the Sedgwick Library and Reading Room, which was given to the town by Mrs. Schermerhorn, was dedicated with appropriate ceremony. The removal of the courts to Pittsfield and abandonment of the old courthouse suggested to this lady a plan of securing it for the benefit of the place. She bought it in 1871 and put it into good repair before donating it to the town. The literary life has always been great in this town and many writers have feasted on the beauty of nature in these parts, including Mr. Beecher and Dr. Channing.

Lenox was made the county seat of this county in 1787; the first courthouse was finished in 1792; the first good courthouse was built in 1816 and served till the seat of justice was changed to Pittsfield. So it will be observed that Lenox had the county seat for ninety years.

Having dwelt much on the "glories of a former time" the writer will draw this sketch to a close by stating that the (1924) town officers of Lenox were as follows: Clerk and treasurer, William P. Powers; selectmen, George F. Bourne, Thomas F. Leary, C. D. Duclos; tax-collectors, G. E. C. Root, William P. Powers;

assessors, Richard A. Stanley, D. C. Belden, James H. Pelton; overseers of the poor, same as the selectmen; tree-warden, Wheeler A. Shepardson; auditors, Tremaine Parsons, Egbert Parsons; superintendent of schools, Ralph W. Barnes.

The treasurer reported in 1924: Cash on hand, $8,004; cash received in 1924, $301,553. Cash paid out, $290,382. Balance on hand December 31, 1924, $19,175.

Lenox of today is a place of beautiful homes of wealthy and for the most part independent and happy people whose ancestors saw their own share of hardships, during whose eventful lives they proved to be men and women of sterling, rugged characters, doing their part to better the condition of the country and raise the standards of true living.

Town of Washington—In about 1758 several men from Connecticut bought the town site of Washington from a Robert Watson, of Sheffield. Watson had purchased it from the Indians and he assured the Connecticut purchasers that his title was good. In 1760 it was discovered that Watson was insolvent and his title not perfect, hence they had to purchase the township and made a new contract with the Indians. Previously this township was called Watsontown, but was then changed to Greenock. Among the earliest settlers here were George Sloan, Andrew Mumford, William Milliken, Elijah Crane, Amos Beard, William Beard, Joseph Knox, Nathan Ingraham, Joseph Chaplin and Matthew De Wolf. From 1762 to 1777 the township was called Hartwood. The town was incorporated April 12, 1777, as Washington. After some years delay in settlement affairs, the people commenced to renew their vigor and things moved on rapidly towards making a thrifty community. Roads were laid out, forests fell before the sturdy pioneer's axe.

One sixty-third of the township was reserved for the settled ministry, while as much more was to be devoted to the support of schools. Rev. William G. Balentine was the first minister and commenced about 1772. A meeting-house was built in 1773 and twenty years later was struck by lightning. Early in 1859, the town which for sometime had been without preaching, the two societies, Methodist and Congregationalists, both being small in membership, made a union effort and elected Rev. M. M. Longley as pastor for one year. "The Washington Union Society" was organized in 1859. As the years went by each denomination organized for themselves.

Among the first roads established here was the Westfield and Pittsfield Turnpike, through the center of the town. At one date the town had eleven saw mills, two of which were run by steam power. Hill and dale tell the surface story of the town and a large bed of glass sand adds to its mineral wealth. As to honorable mention of men of note one thinks of ex-governor and later U. S. Senator Edwin D. Morgan, who was reared here, the son of a farmer true and intelligent.

The population of this town in 1920 was 240. The town's expenditures in 1924 were as follows: Painting town hall, $200; town officers, $766.10; sundries, $355.62; officers' bonds, $45.00; tree-warden, $21.00; forest fires, $168.72; cemeteries, $13.50; old accounts, $60.72; winter roads, $362.27; bridges, $349.22. Total $2,-342.15. Public roads, $3,265.75; material, $851.07; truck, $491.00. Grand total for 1924 was $4,607.82.

The receipts and expenditures for the town in 1924 were $22,916.-53. From this should be deducted $3,055.79 in treasury at close of year. The 1924 town officers were as follows: Clerk, John B. Watson; town treasurer, John B. Watson; selectmen, C. Remington Johnson, Arthur J. Tatro and George W. Ende; assessor, Harry D. Olds; superintendent of schools, George L. Spaulding.

Town of Stockbridge—The natural scenery of this part of Berkshire county is unsurpassed. Stockbridge is situated between the two divisional ranges of the Green Mountains—the Taconic and Hoosac as they trend from the north toward Long Island Sound. The altitude is 840 feet above tide-water from the street's center in the village. Of its population it may be said that in 1770 it had about 1,400 inhabitants; in 1880 it was 2,257 and the last United States census (1920) gives it as only 1,764. Its three villages are known as Curtisville, at the north, Glendale at the west, and "the Plain" at the southeast. These have all long since had postoffice centers. The Housatonic river flows through the town, entering from the east. The surface of this town is diversified by three noted lakes—the largest, Mahkeenac, at the north, covering five hundred acres, Lake Averick, a half mile southwest of it and lastly, Mohawk, one mile northwest of Glendale. The outlets of all these lakes afford fine water-power which has long since been greatly utilized by many factory sites.

In 1722 Joseph Parsons and 176 other residents of Hampshire county, petitioned the General Court of Massachusetts, for two townships on the Housatonic river. The petition was granted that

year and a committee appointed to effect the purchase from the natives, divide the tract, and open the way for settlement. The result of this action was the laying out of the "Upper and Lower Housatonic grants"—the embryos of several future towns. The townships were to be each seven miles square; but the territory actually laid out under the legislative act was greatly in excess of the grant, embracing what are now Sheffield, Great Barrington, Mt. Washington, Egremont, the most of Alford with much of Stockbridge, West Stockbridge and Lee. To ratify this bargain Konkapot and twenty other Indians of his tribe met the commissioners at Westfield, April 24, 1724. The consideration paid was "640 pounds in money, three barrels of cider and thirty quarts of rum."

The Indians of the valley at this period, comprising about twenty families, lived mostly in Sheffield, Great Barrington, and Stockbridge. In the above named sale they reserved for themselves a certain district on the boundary line of the two grants, where they might pursue the little agriculture their simple wants required, depending mainly for their support upon the forest and stream for remaining supply. But the attention of sundry Christian philanthropists in the Connecticut river valley was just now enlisted in their favor with results of important bearing on their future welfare.

Rev. Samuel Hopkins, of West Springfield—the real founder of the Housatonic Mission—becoming greatly interested in the neglected natives, called on Col. John Stoddard of Northampton, one of the Indian Commissioners of the province, in March, 1734, and conferred with him concerning a plan for their instruction and betterment. Rev. Stephen Williams, of Long Meadow, was taken into their councils, and through these men application was made to the board of commissioners for Indian Affairs at Boston. The latter body held funds contributed in Britain to the "Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts," which they desired to render available for the proposed enterprise.

By these officials Messrs. Hopkins and Williams were requested to visit and confer with the Indians on the subject. At a preliminary consultation with Konkapot through an interpreter, that sachem expressed his willingness to receive instruction, but deferred to the opinions of his people as they should be expressed around a proposed Council fire. The occasion took place at the "Great Wigwam" in the present village of Great Barrington, July

8, 1734. Hither the reverend emissaries had arrived, after a two-days' toil through "the great and howling wilderness," and one night's lodging in the forest. For four days the pros and cons of the projected mission were discussed between its designers and the sages of the tribe. At length, all queries and obstacles being satisfactorily answered and removed, it was resolved that permission be given and preparations made to accomplish the plan.

The preliminaries having resulted well, the next step was to secure a suitable man to inaugurate the work. Rev. Messrs. Williams and Bull, of Westfield, were empowered by the commissioners to provide for this, and he was shortly found in Mr. John Sergeant of Newark, N. J., a graduate of Yale, and then officiating there as tutor. He avowed his willingness to devote his life and labors to the red men and made his first visit to the locality in October, 1734. He addressed the Indians through an interpreter and made a favorable impression. With willing hands they brought material and soon had a rude building completed to serve the two-fold purpose of a school and a church. To facilitate operations the Indians from the lower (Sheffield) and from the upper (Stockbridge) lodges were gathered into the vicinity of the new center (Great Barrington) and Sergeant opened his school with twenty-five pupils, preaching on Sundays, and remained until December. Then, having engaged Timothy Woodbridge, of West Springfield, he returned to finish out his official engagement of four years at Yale, taking with him two native boys—sons of Konkapot and Umpachenee—for private instruction.

In July, 1735, Sergeant returned and took up his life's work with the Indians.

The fame of this mission went abroad and many Indian families from over the Connecticut and New York lines, came to enjoy the benefits. After many years, times changed and this mission was moved, or rather its people migrated to Ohio and Michigan in 1785.

As originally laid out Stockbridge was exactly six miles square. In 1774 this territory was divided and a new township, six by two and one-half miles, called West Stockbridge incorporated. Stockbridge was incorporated in 1739, and it took its name from Stockbridge, Hampshire or Hants county, England.

The four white families, beside the missionary and teacher, to whom lands had been allotted by the commissioners, arrived and took possession of the lands in 1737-38, viz: Joseph Woodbridge, Col. Ephraim Williams, Josiah Jones and Ephraim Brown.

The first town meeting was held July 11, 1739, when Captain John Konkapot and Aaron Umpachenee, selectmen (Indians), and Ephraim Williams, moderators, were officers. At the town meeting in March, 1744, the Indian proprietors were directed to lay off 1,200 acres for themselves, the English to have the remaining part.

The first vote to construct a highway here was in 1744 when a committee was appointed to erect a bridge over the Housatonic river, south of the village.

In 1751 the town invited Rev. Jonathan Edwards who had been dismissed from the church at Northampton, to succeed the missionary, Sergeant. Edwards was to receive six pounds, four shillings a year lawful money and the Indians were to draw him eighty "slay loads of fire wood annually," and the English people of the church were to haul him twenty sleigh loads.

A majority of the Stockbridge people were Congregational and of the orthodox type. Until 1824 there was only the one church there, then there was another church set off in another part of the township. An Episcopal church was established in 1834. A Methodist church was formed in the town in 1837. In 1860 the Roman Catholics built. The churches in Stockbridge in 1925 are the Congregational, the Roman Catholic, and Episcopal church.

Other sections of this work will show what this part of the county did for freedom in the days of the Revolutionary War, hence mention need not be made here. The first vote in a war measure here is shown to have been 42 to 1 for independence of the Mother country. The crisis of 1812 found the people here, as elsewhere in New England, divided in sentiment upon the war question. The democrats supported and the federalists opposing it. Lines were closely drawn and sides were taken even within the church and in the schools. In the fall of 1814, the ministerial association of this county enjoined a day of fasting and prayer on account of the war; its public observance was not deemed prudent in Stockbridge from threats of interruption. During 1814 this town furnished one full company which was ordered to Boston. That, however, was a bloodless campaign. Captain John Hunt had command of this militia company. Prices went sky high during the War of 1812-14. Flour was sold readily at $15 per barrel; coarse teas at $10 and fine teas at $15, per pound. In Civil War days 135 men went forth from Stockbridge—many never returned.

The first school for white children here was opened in 1760. In

1764 there were two school buildings erected in the town. President Kirkland, of Harvard College, had been a teacher in this town. The public school had a higher department here which in 1828 was incorporated into the Stockbridge Academy. From this school went many to Harvard and Williams Colleges. There were numerous private schools and "Select schools." What was known as "Laurel Hill Association" was incorporated in 1853 which was really for old settlers' re-union purposes, where annual gatherings were the prominent feature.

In the village of Stockbridge a century and more ago, hats and wrought iron nails were made quite extensively. A woolen factory was established in 1813 and ran for several years. Later a cotton mill was built farther up stream. At the outlets of the lakes at one time, grist mills, woolen mills, chair and paper-pulp plants were operated. In recent years this territory has kept pace with other portions of Massachusetts in manufacturing enterprises.

The first postoffice in Berkshire county was established in this town in 1792—the first newspaper, too, the Western Star—commenced here.

The Stockbridge & Pittsfield railroad was opened in 1849.

Among the things for which Stockbridge is noted are these: Its Memorial Chime Tower, marking the spot where stood the first Indian School; Rev. Jonathan Edward's house in which he wrote "The Freedom of the Will," Indian Burial places; Old Sedgwick home; birthplace of Cyrus W. Field, promoter of the Atlantic Cable, also his grave; the birth place of Mark Hopkins and Miss Sedgwick.

The town officers in 1924 were as follows: Selectmen, William M. Healey, Steve C. Burghardt, Paul S. Palmer; town clerk, Adam Schilling; assessors, Paul S. Palmer, George I. Bradley, S. C. Burghardt; school committee, Henry B. Parsons, Eugene A. Benjamin, John P. Pamer; overseers of the poor, Paul S. Palmer, Leroy B. Smith, George I. Bradley; auditor, Edmond C. Wilcox; tax-collector, Michael Flynn; tree warden, George A. Breed. The assets and liabilities of the town in 1924 were $69,361. The librarian was at date last named, Olga M. Wilcox.

West Stockbridge—The present population of this town is about eleven hundred. The town was formed from "The Indian Town" on the Housatonic river from a plantation in the ancient county of Hampshire, the date being June 22, 1739. As early as 1768 the question of taking a part from original Stockbridge was agitated.

So it was that on February 23, 1775, the western part of the town was incorporated as West Stockbridge. But an error in naming the boundary lines caused the work to be delayed until such error was adjusted. The territory had been commonly styled Queensborough. Here as in Stockbridge, the first to settle and make homes were the red race. When white men got a title, then actual settlement was rapid for those days. John George Easland, the first settler, originally came from France, landing in New York in 1738. In 1753 he migrated north and settled in the west part of the township of Stockbridge, now known as West Stockbridge Center, and on a section later known as the Morgan Arnold Place. Colonel Williams opened a store in 1773. The first minister was Rev. Thayer. The earliest physician was Dr. Samuel Baldwin. The Congregational church was formed June 4, 1789. Baptists and Episcopalians were early in the field. The Methodist church was formed here in 1834; a church was erected in 1838. The Roman Catholic church was organized here in 1869 when a large church was built. Old time postoffice locations were inclusive of West Stockbridge, West Stockbridge Center, State Line, Rock Dale, etc. Nearly all have long since been discontinued and the rural carrier system obtains generally now.

For service in the Civil War this town gave her 151 brave men —ten more men volunteered than the quota called for. Six commissioned officers were in the number.

Public and private schools have always been up to the New England standard. A census report in 1885 shows West Stockbridge to have had 1,625 population; thirty-five years later it had 1,100.

Windom Lodge, Masonic order, was formed with twenty-one members in June, 1803. When the Morgan excitement came on in 1826, the charter was surrendered and no meetings were held until June, 1856.

The minerals found here are iron, marble and mica-slate. These have all yielded their treasure to the people of the town from an early date.

The present valuation of real estate in West Stockbridge Town is $796,760. Valuation of personal property, $308,107. Total valuation, $1,104,867. Tax-rate in 1924 was $28 per thousand dollars. The town was entirely free of debts on January 1, 1924 and had a balance of $6,596.64 in its treasury. The 1924-25 town officers are as follows: Town clerk and treasurer, George F. Callahan; selectmen, Richard Bossidy, secretary, Clarence V. Spencer, and

George E. Janes; assessors, George F. Callahan, C. V. Spencer and Albert H. Blake; auditor, Francis A. Fallon; overseer of the poor, George Root, chairman; tax-collector, John T. Powell; tree warden, Frank Johnson; moderator, John J. Corbett.

Town of Lee—This is one of the smallest towns within the commonwealth of Massachusetts. It is also among the youngest in point of incorporation of any in Berkshire county. The territory on all sides of it had settled up twenty odd years before this subdivision of the county had commenced to feel the throb of immigration. The first to settle here were those who came in in 1760, and its incorporation was not until 1777. This town is situated in the valley of the Housatonic and on the slopes of the bordering hills. The area is a little less than five miles square. The river so famous for water power, has no less than ten dams within its limits. There are three consolidated villages, the Center, East Lee, two miles, and South Lee, three miles distant. The total population in 1880 was 3,939. Its population in 1920 was placed at 4,085. At the Center, the elevation above sea-level is 900 feet. While the Stockbridge Indians once owned and lived here there is no written history of the relations with Indian tribes in this town.

The first settler in the present domain of Lee was Isaac Davis of Tyringham, who located in 1760, in the extreme southern part of the town, on the banks of Hop Brook. Asahel Dodge located on the hill nearly two miles east from the Center. Around him sprung up a settlement known as "Dodgetown." The old homesteads thereabouts are all out of existence today. Other settlers were Jonathan Foote, William Ingersoll, Richard Howk, Elisha Freeman and John Winegar. The church was not established until 1780 after which "Dodgetown" had a lusty rival in the newer settlements. Five distince tracts of land included in whole or in part in the town of Lee at its incorporation: Hoplands, Watson, Williams, Larrabee's, Glassworks. These tracts were finally incorporated October 21, 1777. The first town meeting was held in the log house of Peter Wilcox, December 22, 1777. The town meeting records have been well preserved down the long chain of passing years. The many records concerning the Revolutionary struggle, take up a large number of pages. As late as 1841 there were still living here seven old Revolutionary veterans. In the War of 1812-14 this town sent out fifteen drafted men, but their services were limited to six weeks.

When Lee was incorporated, its charter contained no provision for the Church, as was customary in New England hitherto. However, the spirit was with them and they chose a barn in which preaching was had and the choir was in the hay-mow. Abraham Fowler was the first preacher, he came in 1779. The first church was erected in 1781 and stood where the Park is located now.

For more than fifty years the Congregational church was the only one in town. The Methodists began by a missionary work in 1831 and a church was organized in 1839; a house of worship was dedicated in 1840. The Baptist church was organized with twenty members in 1850, and a building erected in 1852. St. George's Episcopal church was formed in 1856 and the next year a building was erected at a cost of $7,500. Christmas Eve in 1861 it was burned to the ground. Another was erected and that was burned in 1879, only the walls left standing. In 1880 another fine edifice went up to provide the Episcopalians with a permanent church home again. The construction of the railroad and tunnel brought many Roman Catholics to the town and a society was organized and a building dedicated in 1856. In South Lee, St. Francis Catholic church was formed in the eighties. Since 1844 separate religious services under various churches have been held by the colored people. The present churches of Lee are as follows: Congregational, Roman Catholic, Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal and Episcopal.

The first public schools in Lee town were established in 1784. In 1794 two districts and buildings were provided. In 1885 the town had eighteen separate schools and about $7,000 per year was being spent for schools. Today the schools of the town are well equipped and have a large attendance in various departments. A private school was opened in 1835 by Alexander Hyde. A boarding school for girls was conducted a number of years. The Lee Academy was established in 1837 and continued until 1851 when it merged with the public high school. Many from the Lee schools later entered and graduated from colleges including the Williams College at Williamstown.

Nature provided a splendid water-power for Lee and man has utilized it to the very best of advantage. Of course the pioneer commenced in his crude way, by erecting his saw and grist mills. Then after the War of 1812-14 came on the making of woolen goods was started in small factories, one being at the outlet of Laurel Lake and another at South Lee. Cotton ducking was

also made at about the same date. In 1817 gunpowder manufacture was begun here by Laflin Loomis & Co., near the Center and later at South Lee. Chair factories, carriage works and iron works were all among the industries here represented back a century ago. In 1828 carding machines were extensively made here. But paper soon took the forefront in manufacturing. The first was in 1806, by Samuel Church, at South Lee. The work was all done by hand then. In 1885 there were ten firms engaged in paper making as will be seen by the following paragraphs: The ten firms or companies had eighteen mills in operation and were then producing daily, 89,000 pounds of paper and finding employment for seven hundred and ten persons. The grades of paper produced included Collar, Bristol Board, Writing paper, Book paper, Bond paper, Manilla paper, Ledger writing stock and Chromo-plate paper. The most important natural product of Lee is marble, the quantity of which is nearly endless. It is a fine building stone and stands under a pressure of 26,000 pounds per square inch. Marble from here went into the National Capitol extension at Washington, D. C., as well as into the City Hall in Philadelphia—700,000 cubic feet having been used.

The paper industry crowns the valley with employment and prosperity. The water-power and quality of water found in this locality makes it an ideal place in which to produce paper and the everlasting hills are solid with valuable marble strata.

The Lee Bank was established in 1835 with a capital of $50,000 and in 1885 it had $300,000 capital. Since then the town has been well provided with financial institutions.

A postoffice in Lee was established in 1803, in the tavern of Jedediah Crocker, in Cape street and he was the first postmaster. In 1816 the office was removed to the Center. In 1826 an office was established in South Lee and in 1848 at East Lee.

The population of Lee town has been at various periods as follows: In 1791, it had 1,170; 1800, 1,267; 1820, 1,384; 1830, 1,825; 1840, 2,428; 1860, 4,220; 1870, 3,860; 1884, about 4,000; 1920, United States reports give it as 4,085.

September 13, 1877, the town celebrated its hundredth anniversary of settlement. Seven hundred guests sat at dinner and speech-making was the order of the afternoon.

Coming down to the present time it may be said that the town officers in 1924 were as follows: Selectmen, Michael F. Kane, John T. Collins and John M. Goodrich; treasurer, John J. Waddock; moderator, A. B. Clark; clerk of board of registrars, E. J. Maloney;

auditor, James B. Pollard; principal of schools, Charles L. Stephenson.

Town of Becket—This town lies on the Green Mountain range, and was one of four townships organized by the General Court in 1735. At first this town was four miles and ten rods in width by eight miles in length. Since then changes made have left its territory of an irregular shape. In 1783 most of that part of the town which lay northeast of the west branch of the Westfield river, was united with certain other tracts, and formed into the present town of Middlefield, Hampshire county. The present area of the town is about 26,000 acres. Becket is bounded on the north by Washington, east by Middlefield and Cheshire, south by Otis, and west by Tyringham and Lee. The township was granted to Joseph Brigham and fifty-nine others, in 1735. In 1740 a few more settlers came in and built rude mills for sawing lumber and grinding grain. Through a fear of the Indians the settlers abandoned the country and returned to their former homes. The first permanent settlement was effected in 1775. The first to come were from Connecticut, and bore the names of Birchard, Gross, King, Kingsley, Messenger, Wait, Wadsworth and Walker. The town was incorporated in June, 1765.

On account of the rough, stony topography of this town it has not been counted among the agricultural sections of the state. Much of the land is too rough to cultivate.

The population of the town in 1860 was about 1,400; in 1880, it was 1,123; and the last Federal census (1920) it was only 674.

A postoffice was established in West Becket in the early part of the nineteenth century. Asa Bird was the first postmaster. Another office was established in 1812 and first known as Becket but later as Becket Center.

The hillsides of this town are covered with springs of the purest water and the streams are both numerous and rapid. But most all have their sources in the town, and are too small for milling purposes, hence little manufacturing has been undertaken. However, there were numerous saw and grist mills, also carding mills. Small tanneries and chair factories flourished a century and more ago in this town. In 1857 Bulkley, Dunton & Co., of New York, built a paper mill on the Becket side of the stream opposite Middlefield station. Wall and wrapping paper were their chief products. With time this mill went out of commission.

The first Congregational society was organized December 28, 1755, with five members. The first house of worship was erected in 1762. The next was built in 1800. North Becket Congregational church was established in 1849. A Baptist church was formed in Becket in 1764. In 1844 a new meeting-house was built, the old one at the Center having become unfit for use. The people of the town today are well supplied with denominational church services.

The public schools are the pride of the town and are well attended. The 1924 resources and expenditures for schools in the town was $14,519. The bill for transporting the pupils to and from the high school last year was $1,390. The present superintendent is William E. Hebard.

Becket in National wars has ever been loyal and firm in demanding its country's rights. The town's records show that in the Revolutionary days the town upheld the resistance made toward the tyranny of Britain. Coming down to Civil War days we find that almost to a man loyalty to the Union obtained here. One hundred and two men served from the town between 1861 and 1865. Many fell victims. The town raised $16,000 for war purposes. In the Spanish-American and World Wars there were found but few, if any real "slackers."

The present (1924-25) town officers are as follows: Clerk and treasurer, W. D. Ballou; selectmen, R. W. Smith (chairman), John L. Mitchell, James H. Gray; assessors, H. A. Jennings, A. J. Crochiere, E. C. Turner; board of health, Dr. Hugh Heaton, A. C. Andrews, George H. Seagers; auditor, S. H. Cheeseman; tax-collector, John L. Mitchell; tree-warden, Walter A. Stanley; moderator, P. H. Tobin.

The last treasurer's report shows resources in 1924 of $49,054; the balance on hand after all expenses were paid was $2,408. The assessors' report shows valuation of lands, $224,785; of buildings, $398,000; personal property, $188,500. Tax-rate was in 1924, $23.10 per $1,000. Total number of acres assessed, 26, 559; number dwelling houses, 297; horses, 136; cows, 210; sheep, 90; neat cattle, 124; swine, 11; fowls, 815.

CHAPTER XVI

SOUTHERN TIER OF TOWNS

Town of Great Barrington—About a half mile to the south of the Stockbridge line, in this town, stands the eminence known as Monument Mountain, rendered famous by the well known poem of William Cullen Bryant. This is so named for a huge pile of quartz stones laid up conically on the southern slope. About one hundred years ago the rude monument was thrown down and an excavation made beneath, by the foolish who thought that treasure might be hidden there. In 1884 some young men from the village rebuilt the monument in its original style under direction of Ralph Taylor, of Great Barrington, who saw the monument for the last time in 1824, in company with William Cullen Bryant. As long as the Indians remained in the country, on passing, they always cast a stone onto the pile of rock already gathered there. The reason is mere conjecture.

The first connection the English colonists had with the Indians of this region was the conflict since known as Talcot's fight. It is supposed that this conflict was near the present bridge (the old fordway) in the village of Great Barrington.

January 30, 1732, 176 men including their leader, Joseph Parsons, of the county of Hampshire, which then included the entire Connecticut Valley lying in Massachusetts, petitioned the General Court at Boston for grants of two tracts of land on West Brook, in the southwestern corner of the state. The petition was granted the following June, allowing two townships, each seven miles square, the one to have its southern boundary identical with the divisional line between Massachusetts and Connecticut, the other to be located immediately north. April 8, 1726, the proprietors numbering fifty-nine, received from the committee the lands assigned to them under the name of Upper and Lower Housatonic townships. The best historians agree that Mathew Noble, of Westfield, was the first English settler in Berkshire county. He spent the first winter among the Indians. Not long after the settlers had entered their lands trouble arose over the claim made by the Dutch to this very location. At times the strife over occupancy here was intense. In January, 1732, the Lower township was incorporated as a town called Sheffield. It extended from the

Connecticut line to what is now the northern part of the village of Great Barrington, eight miles north and south on the river, embracing portions of present Egremont and New Marlboro.

In January, 1742, an order passed by the legislature granted the inhabitants of the Upper township, together with those on tracts between said townships and the Indian lands, the right to be invested with parish privileges. The first meeting of such new town was held March 8, 1742, at the home of David Nash. One of their early acts was that of erecting a house in which to worship. The location of this church was in the northern part of the village. It was a large barn-like building and it had a sounding-board and high galleries. The first minister to serve was Rev. Thomas Strong. A small unattractive school building stood near the present Congregational church. The hills around the village were covered with forests, broken here and there by clearings.

For a century after the first churches were planted here there was but little harmony in the denominations represented—mostly the Congregational, Episcopal and Lutheran elements.

In 1769 the inhabitants of the western part of Great Barrington, now Alford, asked to be set off as a separate town, but this was not granted them. But in 1773 Alford was incorporated and in 1778 enlarged.

Other sections of this work treat on the part taken by this town and county in the struggle for National Independence.

The paper-making business has from a very early time been the chief industry in Berkshire county and in the town now being treated. The first paper mill in the south part of the county was built in 1707 by Samuel Church, in the village of South Lee, on the site of the Hurlbut Paper company. Many men have from time to time been associated as part owners of the paper industry at this point. New mills were later installed and today the paper business is one of great importance, and other paragraphs in this sketch of Great Barrington will show points of its present magnitude.

The Colonial highway between Boston and Albany passed through this town. It was used by General Amherst and army in French and Indian war, 1758, when enroute to Ticonderoga; by Congressional train of sleighs bearing supplies captured at Ticonderoga to Washington at Dorchester, 1776; and by Burgoyne and large part of his army captured enroute to Boston, 1777.

It was in this town that once resided our own beloved poet,

GREAT BARRINGTON

SEARLES—HOPKINS MANSION

MAIN STREET AND LIBRARY

OWAISSA CAMP

MASON LIBRARY AND ALASKAN TOTEM POLE

William Cullen Bryant; here he married and was enough of a resident to have been elected as town clerk. Several of his gems of poems were written here 'mid scenes of the Berkshire Hills and surroundings.

The church history of this town is all too long to be here spoken of in detail, suffice to say that these denominations have been well represented. At present the village of Great Barrington has the Congregational, Episcopal, Methodist Episcopal, Roman Catholic, Christian Science and African Methodist Episcopal churches. All have creditable church edifices save one. The first Methodist Class was formed here in 1830.

The first schoolhouse known to have been erected here was in 1848.

With the passing years schoolhouses were scattered here and there throughout the town and education has always been uppermost in the minds of a majority of the citizens of the town and money expended for school work has not been begrudged to any great extent. Not until 1868 did the town have a high school. At that date $2,000 was appropriated for that purpose. The school was opened in the Center building and remained there until the erection of the High School Building, in 1869, at a cost of $15,000.

The 1924 school reports show an enrollment in the eight schools of 1,406, distributed as follows: High school, 324; Bryant and Portable, 274; Justin Dewey, 338; Housatonic, 399; Bear Mountain, 15; Monument Valley, 11; Seekonk, 24; Van Deusenville, 21.

The Lodges located at the village of Great Barrington include the Masonic, instituted in December, 1795. It is known as Cincinnatus Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and its charter was signed by Paul Revere, then Grand Master. Lodge met in New Marlboro until 1797. Other secret orders of this town at present include the Independent Order of Old Fellows. The name of the other lodges, of the semi-fraternal type here is Legion. Beneficiary or life insurance orders have for many years been popular.

Coming down to the present day it should be said that Greater Barrington has an assessed valuation of eight million dollars. Train connections with New York city are good, time being four hours. The tax rate is $21.30 per $1,000 valuation. Number of polls, 1,909. Population in 1920 was 6,315. The Mason Public Library has upon its stacks over 21,000 volumes. Jennie K. Thompson is present librarian.

The town debt in 1924 was $156,500. The subjoined is a list

of the 1924-25 town officers: Clerk, treasurer and collector of taxes, Edward Kelly; selectmen, L. W. Bump, William A. Smith, and George H. Cobb; assessors, R. T. Dewey, Joseph Gerard and L. W. Bump; tree-warden, John T. Nalty; auditors, Clarence R. Sabin, Coe W. Morgan and Jesse E. Burghardt.

As has been noted before, this place was incorporated in 1761; has two steam railroads and one interuban line to all parts of county. Its leading industries are at present: The Monument Mills, manufacturers of bed-spreads and cotton warp; B. D. Rising Paper Company, fine bond paper-factory; Stanley Insulating Company, makers of vacuum bottles; Great Barrington Manufacturing Company, makers of cotton quilts and towels (converters); The Berkshire Coated Paper Company, makers of glazed papers; George A. Stevens, box maker.

There are two banks in Greater Barrington—Great Barrington Saving Bank and the National Mahaiwe Bank. The newspaper which is of great age and much prized is the "Berkshire Courier."

The Chamber of Commerce was organized November, 1920 and its officers include the president, Frederick H. Turner; vice-president, Clarence I. Sweet; treasurer, Russell T. Dewey; secretary, Frank J. Pope.

The Public Library known as Mason Library (of which mention was made above), was a bequest of Mrs. Mary A. Mason of $50,000 for the establishing of a free public library in memory of her husband. It is a beautiful red brick marble finished structure costing a total of $58,722. The corner-stone was laid April 13, 1912 and it was turned over to the trustees July 24, 1913.

Town of Alford—This is one of the small towns of the county. Its present population is about 250. Its territory is very irregular in form. Its greatest length is on the west, where it is a little more than five miles, while its width varies from less than three hundred rods to three miles. This town is rough and mountainous on all sides except the south, and is divided into an eastern and western section by a mountain range, running through its center. Tom Ball Mountain near the south part of West Stockbridge, extends into the northeastern corner of the town. For several years after the pioneer settlers arrived, wild turkeys, raccoons, deer, wild-cats, and bears abounded on these mountains. Today all trace of most all these wild animals has gone. Devil's Den, and the Frying-pan Spring are curiosities within this town. Alford has

always been counted among the farming sections of Berkshire county.

But few if any white men were here before 1750 and not many up to 1756. The southern and central portion of the town are in the former Shauanun purchase, as conveyed October, 1756, by Joseph Quinequaunt and Shauanun, of the Stockbridge Indian tribe, to Timothy Woodbridge, Stephen Kelsey, Sr., also those of the family name of Hamlin, Watson, Warner, Hoskins, Fortin and others. Another tract to the north of this was called the Greenland Grant, of 1,500 acres, was conveyed by Joseph Dwight and others as a committee of the General Court, in consideration of one hundred pounds Sterling, July 17, 1756. From 1754 to 1762 many settlers located here. Most of the first settlers were from Connecticut. The original part of this township belonged to Great Barrington. After much agitation what is now Alford was set off in February, 1773. It was named after a place in England. At the first town meeting in February, 1773, David Ingersoll was moderator, and John Hulbert, clerk.

Through the Revolution the town sustained its proportion of the public burdens. At a meeting at the house of Simeon Hulbert, February 9, 1775, a committee was chosen to receive and forward donations to the poor of Boston. At a meeting in December of that year, they voted to purchase powder and lead for the use of the town. In 1776 Dr. John Hulbert, William Bronson, Daniel Kellogg, Job Milk and Sylvanus Wilcox were the committee of Correspondence and Safety. In 1777, it was voted to exempt men employed at the forge from service in the army.

The most ancient inscription over a grave is in a small abandoned cemetery, commemorating the death of John Jaquins, April 8, 1768.

Concerning the churches of this town it may be recorded that the Congregational church does not possess a clear well defined history, but one well written record of a town meeting dated March, 1773, speaks of voting money for preaching. It is certain that Rev. Joseph Avery was a settled minister in 1781 at a salary of forty pounds annually. August, 1846, the church was reorganized and Harlow Pease was elected deacon.

June, 1867, a council met and a union was formed with the Methodists, which soon proved a failure and in 1874 the church was again reorganized.

The Methodist Episcopal church of the town was formed in 1794

and was one of the appointments on the Pittsfield circuit in 1830. Later it belonged to the Lee circuit and also to the Egremont circuit. In 1799 the celebrated circuit rider Lorenzo Dow traveled here and as a result a successful revival ensued and a number were added to the church.

The Union Meeting-house was built in 1817 and its interior was completed in 1826. The church had no stove until 1832. The Congregational and Methodists each owned a part, while the Baptists also owned a quarter.

A Town House was erected in 1855, and a new school house near by was built the same season.

During Civil War days this town showed her loyalty to the Union of States and sacredness of the flag. Her share of men and money were cheerfully given to the cause of American freedom in that awful strife.

The present (1924) town officers are as follows: Frank Kline, registrar; George N. Willson, moderator; L. D. Oles, assessor; C. F. Post, assessor; Henry Shepard, tax-collector; Frank Kline, town clerk and treasurer; A. S. Garrison, tree-warden; selectmen, John M. Dellea, Charles H. Smith, L. D. Oles; John L. Milligan, auditor. The annual report for 1924 shows the amount of receipts and expenditures to be $13,026, with a balance on hand amounting to $893. This town is noted for its excellent public district schools.

Town of Tyringham—This town is in the central part of the southern townships of the county. It is triangular in form and up to 1847 included within its limits the territory of Monterey, therefore, includes the history of that town. It was in 1735 that Tyringham, called "No. 1 of the Housatonic Townships" was laid out with New Marlboro, Sandisfield, and Becket, designated as Nos. 2, 3, and 4. The Tyringham Equivalent, in 1773, was incorporated as a separate town with the name of Loudon, and later, together with Bethlehem, became the town of Otis. The proprietors of Tyringham town were largely from Newton, Weston and Watertown in Middlesex county. The number of original settlers or lot holders was sixty-seven. The actual settlement of the town commenced in 1739, the first settlers locating in the southern part, afterward known as South Tyringham now embraced by Monterey. The northern part of the town was not invaded by settlers until about twenty years later. The first settlers were Lieutenant Isaac Garfield, Thomas Slaton, and John

Chadwick, who came in April, 1739. Captain John Brewer who contracted to build a mill, came about as soon as any in April, 1739, but did not move until August that year. He came in to these parts with a yoke of oxen and a cart bearing the necessities of a forest dweller. The first night he slept beneath his ox-cart a little south of Twelve Mile Pond; by the next night he had constructed there with logs and bark, a shelter, and soon had his saw mill in operation, on the site where later the J. H. Langdon & Co. mill, in the village of Monterey, stood. For a full century Twelve Mile Pond was called "Brewer Pond" after this first settler and mill-builder.

Before 1750 the town meetings were held by the proprietors of the township in the vicinity of Boston where most of them lived. In that year and later, they were held in the township, the first four years at the house of Captain Brewer, then in the still unfinished meeting-house, or occasionally at the house of John Chadwick.

March 6, 1762, the town was incorporated, with the name of Tyringham, likely a corruption of Turingsham, the home of the Turings. It was named for the English town of that name. Early attention was given to education by the early settlers, yet there was no school building until 1766 when one was built near the Old Center schoolhouse. Before that some one or more of the wives of the settlers taught in their own houses at $1.31 per week. Even before the first settlers came in the proprietors had planned for the building of a church or meeting-house as then called. However, no church organization was had until September, 1750, and it only had eight constituent members. In 1789 Rev. Joseph Avery was settled as a minister and remained until 1808 when trouble arose and he was dismissed, after near twenty years faithful service.

Forty years ago a Berkshire county writer had this to say of Tyringham: "As we look at the present time upon this beautiful valley, with its fine meadow land and flourishing farms, we can hardly imagine it the unwholesome marsh that all early descriptions represent it, and we may thank our ancestors for the courage and endurance necessary for taking the first steps in transforming a swampy tangle of hops, ivy, and hemlock into one of the most beautiful valleys of Berkshire. Among those who settled here early were Elisha Heath, and Francis Clark, in 1773."

In 1825 the Congregationalists were aided by the Baptists, who

had then moved into the town, in finishing the interior of the old church started many years before. The same year the Methodist Episcopal society was organized and a church building erected thirty-six by sixty feet. The next Methodist church was erected in 1844. The Baptist church was constituted in August, 1827, with twenty members—five men and fifteen women.

While this town has always paid special attention to farming in all of its various branches, it has been noted for the manufacture of hand-rakes. In the eighties there were three separate factories engaged in this enterprise. One shop in 1884 turned out 48,000 rakes. At one time there was a good sized paper mill in this town. The Turkey Paper Mill, so called, was built in 1832. It was at first started as a hand-mill, that is making one sheet at a time on a wire mould, but soon adopted the cylinder process. At the World's Fair in the New York Crystal Palace, in the fifties, this paper mill exhibited its paper and at that time there was no better writing paper made in the world. In the sixties this plant was burned and other mills have since been erected and operated for a time.

A Society of Shakers was organized here as early as 1792, at first consisting only of nine members. They bought a large tract of land in Hopebrook valley, and there formed a large settlement, consisting of two villages, a half mile apart. In 1858 the society was weakened by twenty-three of the membership running away at one time. In 1874 the others sold out and united with Shaker communities at Hancock and New Lebanon.

Coming down to the present time, it may be said that the affairs of the town have for many years been up-to-date and well governed. The town officers in 1924 were as follows: Selectmen, Thomas F. Curtin, H. J. Crittenden, Everett L. Hale; auditor, G. L. Bosworth; town clerk, George R. Warren; assessors, Carl Curtin, James H. Clark, Frank W. Stannard; treasurer and tax-collector, Frank W. Stannard; overseers of the poor, Thomas F. Curtin, Henry J. Crittenden and Everett L. Hale.

The present tax-rate on $1,000 worth of property is $22.50; number of poll tax payers, 82; value of assessed personal estate, $64,498; value of assessed real estate, $321,460; number horses assessed, 109; number cows assessed, 291; sheep assessed, 43; neat cattle other than cows, 101; swine, 23; number dwelling houses, 104. The inventory of town property shows a valuation of $14,000 including library, town building and furniture.

The United States census for 1920 gave this town a population of two hundred and sixty-seven.

The Town of Otis—Two towns—Loudon and Bethlehem—were united in 1809 and retained the name Loudon until later on. The name Loudon probably came from Lord Loudon, commander-in-chief of the American forces in the French and Indian war. Loudon was incorporated in 1773. Before the incorporation it was known as the "Tyringham Equivalent," a tract of land given to Tyringham—Township No. 1, of the grant of 1735. That tract was seven miles long and on an average of three wide. Its area covered about 13,000 acres. The central point of business was what is now called East Otis.

The last town meeting called under the name of Loudon was May 7, 1810.

Bethlehem was incorporated as a district June 24, 1789, and was composed of the "North Eleven Thousand Acres." What is now Otis Center was included in Bethlehem, and it is only about one half mile from the northeastern corner of Sandisfield.

In 1790 the district was divided into four school districts. A survey was made in 1791 to determine the central point of the district, which was found to be nearly east of Hay's Pond and about a mile distant. It was the business center of the district, but no church was ever erected there. It was voted in 1795 to build a "town hall," the same to be also used for religious meetings, regardless of the denomination.

In 1809 a vote was taken to set off a section of the district of Becket, to which measure there was too much opposition and the project failed until March, 1810 when it prevailed. They held their regular meetings and transacted their business the same as towns in their corporate capacity, until the union with Loudon was effected. The first town meeting under the name of Otis was November, 1810, with Paul Larkcom as moderator. The name Otis is derived from that of Hon. Harrison G. Otis, of Boston, then Speaker of the House of Representatives. The town was increased in its territory in 1838 by the addition of 11,000 acres, since which no changes have been made.

Farmington river courses the entire length of the town from north to south. The stream includes Roaring Brook and Fall River. Ponds and lakes abound here and there throughout the territory. The land is better adapted to grazing than to cultiva-

tion. For many years the most paying crop was that of the apple orchard.

The first grist mill was built in Loudon, now called East Otis. Many mills were built later on throughout the town as lumber was demanded. Tanneries and oil mills were in operation soon after the settlement was effected. Otis in its real early days abounded in dish mills, where many wooden bowls and sundry dishes were fashioned. There was a chair factory and a distillery, as well as a wrapping-paper factory. In 1824 Miles Welles built a puddling furnace, or forge three miles from the Center. In 1848 puddling works were constructed at Cold Spring, named for an immense spring of very cold water.

Forty years ago the most paying industry here was the sawing of native lumber, mostly pine and hemlock.

The first settlers were a hardy race and used to enduring exposure and great hardship. They lived within their means, produced nearly all they needed to eat and drink, and made their own clothing. They were always in their pew on Sabbath day. Tithing men were appointed to see that the people went to church services and enforced the rule.

The first postoffice in this town was established in 1817; another was established at East Otis in 1828, Elijah Owen, postmaster. The mail for many years has been delivered by rural free carriers daily.

Public schools were early in this field and the public school system has kept apace with modern ways and good buildings and efficient instructors are the general rule.

The town's population in 1860 was 998; in 1880 it had decreased to 785. The United States census reports for 1920 gives the population at three hundred and sixty-one.

In 1806 the first meeting-house in London was built but soon destroyed by fire, after which school houses served as meeting-houses. A union church was erected in 1815, aided by nearby towns. This was later controlled by the Methodists. The United Congregational Society was formed in 1806 by people from Loudon and Bethlehem and they dedicated a building in the autumn of 1813. The Otis church was first organized February, 1799. There were several powerful revivals here, one in 1827 of great importance. An Episcopal church was formed in the center of the town, and there a house of worship was erected. The date of such organization was 1828.

In common with other towns of Berkshire county, Otis has been liberal and progressive in all educational matters. The town government has been excellent and few bad men have ever held office. The present (1924-5) town officers are: Selectmen, Arthur W. Jones, W. H. Bryant and N. H. Webster; auditor, Henry R. Somes; town clerk, George P. Carter; assessor, F. L. Bryant; collector, George A. Barton.

It may be of interest in future years for readers of this work to glance at the appropriations of today in such towns as Otis with only 361 inhabitants, hence these extracts from the town clerk's report for 1924: "Snow removal, $500; highway repairs, $1,500; schools, $9,500; State aid, $48; town reports, $67; bridges, repairs, $600; library, $178; cemeteries, $100; contingent fund, $750; town officers, $750; reserve fund, $350; support of the poor, $300; moth suppression, $169.50; library site, $300; town physicians, $500; snow fences, $200; moving school houses, $500."

Town of Egremont—This town was incorporated February 13, 1760, from lands west of the North Parish of Sheffield, and was named after Charles Windham, Earl of Egremont, who was secretary of state for England. Local and State history tells us that when John Konkapot and other Indians, in 1724, deeded the lands of the Housatonic township to the settling committee, they reserved a tract five-eighths of a mile wide extending along the north line of Sheffield to the supposed line of New York. This tract was called the "Indian Reservation."

In 1736, at a conference with the Indians the latter exchanged this reservation for the township of Stockbridge, and at the same time requested that the Dutchmen, who resided on the reservation east of Taghconic, might not be dispossessed of the land which they had improved.

Among the pioneer settlers in these parts were the Karners, Van Guilders, Bushes, Winchell, and Captain John Spoor, who for thirty pounds Sterling and a suit of clothes, purchased of the Indians six hundred acres of land on Egremont plain.

At the first town meeting March, 1761, Samuel Winchell was elected clerk. Robert and William Joyner, from Cornwall, Connecticut, about 1740 were noted men of this town. William was an officer in the war of the provinces against the French and Indians. The hardships of the campaign brought on disease from which he died after his return home.

It is told by those who wrote at that time, that during the Rev-

olutionary war no Tory was suffered to remain in town, and that on one occasion a party from Livingston Manor encamped near the cemetery at North Egremont. A skirmish ensued, a Tory, named Fields was captured, and having a British lieutenant's commission on his person, he was sent a prisoner to West Point.

The south part of the town, between the mountains, was set off from Mount Washington in 1817, and called Willard's Hollow, after a settler of 1760.

Previous to 1845, Benjamin Cole had a carriage factory and made fine coaches. This was at South Egremont.

As to the various church organizations it may be said that their number and detailed history are all too long for a work of this character. A brief statement will follow showing the main features of the churches.

The Congregational church was organized in 1767; their first pastor was Rev. James Treadway. The church edifice built in 1767 stood at Town Hill, and was used as a place of worship until the completion of the later edifice, at South Egremont, in 1832.

The Methodist Episcopal church dates back to "Guilder's Hollow," nearly a century and a half ago. It is known that in April, 1789, at the annual conference of Methodist Episcopal churches at Trenton, N. J., Rev. Benjamin Abbott was appointed to travel Dutchess Circuit, which extended so far over into Berkshire county as to include Mount Washington and Egremont. In 1801 the celebrated Lorenzo Dow was appointed to the circuit. Also Bishop Asbury when on his long weary journeys, used to tarry over a day at "Brother Elijah King's house." This man was the first Methodist to settle in "The Hollow." Thus was started the church so active in this part of the county today.

The Baptist church of Egremont was organized in 1787 by members from all the adjoining towns. Two years later a smaller parish was organized. "The Baptist Society in Egremont," was incorporated June, 1808.

About 1830 a high school was opened at the village of Egremont. Two years later, the legislature incorporated it into the Egremont Academy. It was conducted a half century and was finally sold and the building was soon made into the Town House.

The history of this part of the county for the last quarter of a century is an open book and need not here be referred to other than to remark that good men have usually been at the head of its local government. The report of the town clerk for 1924 gives

facts which we are permitted to here insert. The present town officers are as follows: Town clerk, George Boice; selectmen, E. M. Wheeler, F. J. Warren, F. L. Peck; treasurer, W. E. Boice; tree-warden, Charles Frayer; auditor, Russell Wilcox; superintendent of streets, E. M. Wheeler; forest warden, Frank Bradford. A recapitulation of the treasurer's report shows: Balance school funds, $1,421; balance library funds, $58; war bonus funds, $306; balance town funds, $1,197; total $2,984. Indebtedness, None.

The population of this town in 1924 was 441.

Town of Monterey—The early history of this town is included with that of Tyringham. It was part of Township No. 1 later known as South Tyringham. April 12, 1847, it was incorporated as a separate town, and was named from Monterey, Mexico, in honor of the victory won there the preceding year by General Taylor. For many years it had been the desire of the people living both in the north and south parts of this town to become separate sub-divisions of Berkshire county. It was the topography of the country that made this division desirable. The summit of the mountain range became the line of division. The northern part of the town of Marlboro was separated from the rest of the town by a range of hills known as "Dry Hills," which lie one mile south of where the southern line of this town then ran. In 1851, in response to a petition of its inhabitants, this part was annexed to Monterey. In 1874 a part of Sandisfield was also taken into this town, bringing it to its present size. To the north is Great Barrington and Tyringham, east it is bounded by Tyringham, Otis, and Sandisfield, south by Sandisfield and New Marlboro, and west by Great Barrington.

The little village of Monterey is located in the low lands near the center of the valley. There seems to be every evidence that this valley was at one distant time the abode of the Indians. In modern times many arrow-heads and other articles of Indian make have been discovered in great abundance.

Lake Garfield was named July 4, 1881, the day after the shooting of President James A. Garfield, who had distant relatives in this town. When he was at Williams College he frequently visited this spot. The lake has been greatly enlarged and now affords water for numerous hills.

The soil of Monterey, especially the higher grounds, is best adapted to grazing, and is largely used for such purposes. Forty years ago and more, it was written that "no other town in the

county receives a greater number of premiums for agricultural products at the annual fair than this."

Many years ago this town was the seat of a number of large factories including a paper mill, a cotton factory, a rake factory, and two extensive rat trap factories. Another factory was where ladies horn combs were made and this furnished employment for a goodly number of families. Some of these plants burned, others moved and still others failed and went out of commission. Charcoal and fire-wood for many years were sold in adjoining towns in large quantities.

Many of the inhabitants of this town are directly descended from Captain John Brewer, the father of thirteen children. Col. Josiah Brewer, a son of the last named, also had thirteen children, while his neighbor, Col. Giles Jackson, was the father of two dozen sons and daughters. Other pioneers were Captain John Chadwick and Lieutenant Isaac Garfield both of whom left many descendants hereabouts. The Bidwells, the Taylors, the Steadmans, Miners and Ortons were among the pioneer band who made the original settlement here.

The church history is confined largely to the Congregational denomination, the only one in the town as late as 1890. Its history has been mentioned in other town histories. In 1848 this church had built its third meeting-house. It is related that Rev. Winthrop H. Phelps, who was made pastor in 1854, left among his effects sermon heads and short-hand notes from which after careful study Rev. Adonijah Bidwell made out a sermon that had been preached by his ancestor just a hundred years before.

Public schools have for many years been established in as many as six districts, where excellent buildings and good teachers have been the general rule.

The population of Monterey in 1920 was reported in the Federal census as only two hundred and eighty-two.

The affairs of the local government have been wisely administered. The last town clerk's annual report, dated 1924, gives the list of town officers as these: Town clerk and registrar of votes, Frank Harmon; assessor, William McManus; treasurer, Charles Hanlon; overseer of the poor, Samuel Cronk; fire warden, Samuel Cronk; first assessor, H. P. Fargo; tax-collector, M. V. Thompson; auditor, N. B. Abercrombie; moderator, H. B. Smith. The resources and liabilities of this town in 1924 was $22,672 with an over balance of $194.

The Town of Sandisfield—The present population of this town is about five hundred. It is situated in the extreme southeastern corner of Berkshire county. The town was incorporated March 6, 1762 and the first town meeting called after the incorporation was by virtue of a warrant issued by Joseph Dwight, of Great Barrington, justice of the peace.

The proprietors, the most of whom lived in Worcester, held many meetings, voted money, laid plans for bringing forward settlements, etc. A committee was appointed in 1758 to receive conveyance of one acre for a burying ground, the place being a little northerly and short of a mile from the meeting-house. The first person to be buried here was Mrs. Sylvanus Adams. The same committee were to receive an acre and one-half for a "training field."

The surface of this as well as most of the towns in the county, is rough and hilly. The highest elevation of land some have claimed to be "Seymour's Mountain." It is in the southern part of the town. The most remarkable elevation is "Hanging Mountain." This lies in the southeasterly portion of the town. It rises 450 feet above the waters of Farmington river and presents an almost perpendicular mass of bare, jagged, granitic rocks, in places projecting beyond the base line. This gives rise to the name Hanging Mountain. Other mounts are to be seen within the town but none so elevated and striking. Never failing springs of cold, pure, and healthful water gush forth from mountain base and hillside, soft, limpid and delicious. Beautiful streams, though not large, water and drain the territory, these include Farmington and Clam rivers.

A soil better adapted to the growth of rich, juicy grass is seldom found. It was long since said that "Grass is King in this Town." In 1875 the reports show there was estimated 4,257 tons of hay; only five other towns in the county exceeding or equaling it. The first to settle here made stock raising a business, and later added sheep and profitable dairying along with general farming operations. In 1855 there were 175,000 pounds of cheese produced here. In 1885 it was learned that this town took the lead in amount of maple sugar produced, even being more than Worthington, in Hampshire county. In 1875 this product amounted to 84,876 pounds. The charcoal industry, however, materially cut down the maple supply, as vast amounts of maple were converted into charcoal used in the iron furnaces—as high as 200,000 bushels annually.

The pioneers here were a church-going people, and strictly observed the Sabbath day, which then commenced on Saturday evening. They had no fires in the churches then, and foot stoves were in good demand. Preaching was had by taxing the people for the expenses of the church. The people used plainer food than they do today, yet they were called good livers. Their diet consisted largely of beef and pork, potatoes, rye bread, johnny cake, flap-jacks, bear porridge, and mush and milk. They paid much attention to every Thanksgiving Day but little ado over Christmas. The well filled cider mug was commonly found on the table. Fourth of July and "training day" called out a large assemblage. Weddings were important occasions, at which times cake and cheese then predominated, and wine flowed freely. Husking bees, quilting bees, drawing bees, and such like were times of great merriment and general good feeling. Shoemakers went from house to house with their kits of tools to make the family supply of boots and shoes, and seamstresses to make their wearing apparel.

Town meetings were conducted with much dignity. They frequently took a vote to see whether men might wear their hats in town meetings. They had frequent adjournments of from three to fifteen minutes, and occasionally to meet at the public inn and there finish the remaining business. "They were liable to become thirsty at such times."

The first houses were log and were rude structures. The first frame dwellings were nearly square, with small windows, board ceilings, large stone chimneys, usually in the center, huge open fireplaces and brick or stone ovens. The first brick structure in this town was a school house.

In all of the great wars of the country this town has never shirked her duty in sending volunteers and taxing themselves liberally for funds to sustain the cause for which they fought bravely. The young men who volunteered in the Civil War met many hard experiences and not a few fell victims of the rebel shots. The sacrifices made during the great World War, 1917-19, were indeed the climax of patriotism and loyalty. "The Church" was uppermost in the minds of most all the early citizens here. The date of organizing this church was 1756, and a year later the meeting-house was erected but not finished till 1761. The first pastor called was Rev. Cornelius Jones. He was ordained by a council of fifteen ministers, with Jonathan Edwards as moderator; the

services were held in a barn. The Baptists and Methodists as well as the Congregational people, have kept alive the spiritual element of the town for all these years.

The earliest school was twelve days at the Center by Giles Lee, his pay being twenty shillings. By 1766 there were four school districts in town and 35 pounds Sterling was raised for school purposes. As the population increased the school districts were more and more until they numbered sixteen. The families were large—from eight to fifteen children in each. In 1840 the whole number of pupils was 374 of whom 346 were of school age. Men teachers received $20.00 per month and women received $10.55 per month. About 1808 two libraries were established—one at Sandisfield Center, of 350 volumes, and one at New Boston, of about the same number. Since then the town has been well supplied for with local libraries.

A postoffice was established in New Boston in 1824 with Lyman Brown as postmaster. In all the town has had six postoffices, but the introduction of the modern rural free delivery of mail has lessened the number of offices.

Most of the first settlers here came from Connecticut. The first man to permanently locate was Thomas Brown, and his father soon followed him. They came from Enfield, Connecticut, in 1750. Their native place was Boston, however, and they called their new town, at least the eastern part of it, New Boston. Among the early settlers in New Boston were the Browns, Demings, Grangers, Marvins, Denslows, Beldens, Hawleys, Oviatts, Mills, Pratts, Sears, Spelmans, Smiths and Roberts.

Three-quarters of a century ago this town had a woolen mill, which many years later was destroyed by fire; it was rebuilt and later changed into a papier-mache mill. That was lost by fire. Burt's tannery was another industry of early times. But the change of times has swept these plants all away. The more recent industry is the making of immense quantities of hand-rakes.

Sandisfield Center early became the great business center for this section of the county. Here the first church was built; the first school, the first postoffice and other factors of public interest were seated here. South Sandisfield is situated on Sandy Brook in the southwest part of the town. Early saw and grist mills were there located.

The town's business affairs have of recent times been well ad-

ministered by faithful men. The last town clerk's annual report gives the following as town officers in 1924-25: Town clerk, Edison P. Twining; treasurer, Frederick Whitney; auditor, Lillian E. Deming; selectmen, Frederick Whitney, Jason Sears, Charles Strickland. The receipts and disbursements in 1924 were $30,-443.75. The total assets of the town were at the date last named, $16,051 and the liabilities were $10,996.

One who travels through this section of Berkshire county cannot fail to be impressed with the culture and refinement seen on every hand. The population though not large, seem contented, happy and feel that their lot has truly been cast in pleasant places.

The Town of Sheffield—This is among the southern towns in the county and has always been classed among the exclusive agricultural sections. It is between Great Barrington and Egremont on the north, and the Connecticut line on the south; and between New Marlboro on the east and Egremont and Mount Washington on the west. It is eight miles long north and south and seven miles in width. The Housatonic valley extends through the town in a northerly and southerly direction. The town is broken and hilly in the eastern part, its highest point being Pool Mountain, in the northeast part, some 1,700 feet above sea level or 1,100 feet above the Housatonic valley. In the western border of the town extends the Taconic range of mountains. The soil is best adapted to cereals which flourish in this latitude, but the hilly region in the east is best for grazing purposes. Among the mountains within this town are Barnards, Alum Hill and lesser elevations.

The villages of the town lie on the old highway. Sheffield Plain is a mile north from Sheffield village and is a small hamlet. The largest of the villages is Sheffield, near the geographical center of the town. So quiet and beautiful are its scenes that many like to make it a retreat in summer months. At a very early day the waters from Ashley Falls propelled a number of factories and flouring mills, but these have long since gone.

June 30, 1722, on petition of Joseph Parsons and 115 others, and of Thomas Nash and sixty others, inhabitants of Hampshire county, two tracts of land seven miles square were granted to be laid out on the Housatonic river, the first to adjoin southerly on the division line between Massachusetts and Connecticut. This tract included the major part of the present town of Sheffield. The Indians and whites met April, 1724 including Konkapot and

twenty of his Indians. At that meeting the Indians bartered their lands "For 460 pounds Sterling, three barrels of Sider, and thirty quarts of rum," a tract of land including the present towns of Sheffield, Great Barrington, Mount Washington, Egremont, and parts of Alford, Stockbridge, West Stockbridge, and Lee, with the exception of a reservation in the northwest corner of Sheffield, bounded by the Housatonic river. In 1736 this reservation was purchased by the General Court and the portion in Sheffield was granted to Isaac Fossberry.

The proprietors held their first meeting May 12, 1733 and the Township was incorporated June 22, the same year. To this time no survey of the town had been made. The matter of a true survey dragged along until 1741, when August 4, that year the plan was approved by the Governor. January 30, 1733-34 money was raised to build the first meeting-house which was completed the next year. It stood three-fourths of a mile north of the present building. Really, until 1825 the town and the Congregational church were one and the same thing! During that year the Society became a separate organization. The Baptists, the Methodists and Episcopal denominations each had organizations of their own, the Baptists in 1821; the Methodists in 1842, the Episcopal in 1866.

Library accommodations in this town have been enjoyed from away back in 1871. It still flourishes and adds from year to year to its selection of interesting, valuable books.

The first town meeting was called June 30, 1777, in the name of the government and people of Massachusetts Bay. Dr. Lemuel Barnard was chosen moderator. All through the Revolutionary struggle this town's records show the citizens were foremost in their loyalty and belief in general independence from all other powers, including the Mother country. But little interest was taken here in the War of 1812.

The first postoffice in Sheffield was established in 1794. Before the construction of the Berkshire railroad in 1841, a mail stage passed through the town from Hartford daily enroute to Albany, New York.

Marble is abundant in this town, but for the last half century this material has come into disuse on account of other material known to be better in the matter of withstanding heat. This fault was discovered in the Boston and Chicago fires in the seventies.

Coming down to the present day it should be stated that the best of local town government has obtained here many years. The last report of the town clerk in 1924 shows the following: The list of town officers includes—Henry C. Clark, clerk and treasurer; Charles M. Conklin, George Bradway and William S. Conway, selectmen; W. P. Roys, Edgar D. Shears and Ira E. Manvel, assessors; Clarence F. Warner, tax-collector; auditors, Samuel M. Fox, Arthur H. Tuttle.

The valuation of personal estates was $266,292; real estate, $916,690. Total valuation $1,182,982. Number of polls assessed, 451; horses, 397; cows, 1,539; neat cattle, 519; sheep, 28; swine, 15; fowls, 5,982; dwelling houses, 500; acres of land, 28,040.

Town's liabilities and resources amount to $13,892.51, with a balance of $7,143.60 in the treasury.

Town of New Marlborough—This is one of four towns between Westfield and Sheffield, opened for settlement in 1735. Here Major Benjamin Wheeler passed the winter of 1739-40, alone, no white man nearer than Sheffield. This Wheeler homestead remained in the family for near one hundred and fifty years, through five generations of direct descent. Four of the five generations bore the name Benjamin Wheeler. In setting off this town the General Court evidently had in mind establishing a communication between the Connecticut and Housatonic valleys. This town seems to have been especially laid off for the purpose of making a highway between the two valleys named. It is said that the troops and stores of General Amherst's expedition against Ticonderoga, in 1759, passed over this road. Lord Howe is said to have marched over the same route with his unfortunate expedition against the same stronghold. It was long known as "The Great Road."

In less than two years the four townships were located and surveyed, being designated as Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4, and afterward incorporated under the names, in order of the numbers, Tyringham, New Marlboro, Sandisfield, and Becket. The original grantees of No. 2 were citizens of Marlboro, Hampshire county, and thus the new township was called New Marlboro. The word is English and signifies marl.

The winter of 1739-40 was one of unusual severity and the supplies used by the first settler were brought from Sheffield on a hand-sled with snow-shoes. The Indians though friendly would not allow any deer to be killed or driven off by any white men,

hence pioneer Wheeler had no juicy venison to eat! As was customary elsewhere, a small log fort was constructed for safety should the Indians ever get troublesome. This was located on what later was known as Leffingwall Hill, between New Marlboro and Mill river. There were born the first children of the town—twins born to Philip Brookins and wife. In the white occupancy there were always a few lone Indians who lingered about their old hunting grounds and in this case it was old Anthony, who had his cabin and garden patch in the valley where the brook which bears his name joins the Konkapot.

The second winter, Benjamin Wheeler had his family with him in this green glad solitude. It is not believed that any other settlers came in before 1741, when Noah Church, Jabez Ward, Thomas Tattilow, Elias Keyes, Joseph Blackmer, Jesse Taylor, John Taylor, William Pitt, Philip Brookins entered this part of Berkshire county as permanent settlers.

This township, before known as No. 2, was on June 15, 1759 incorporated as "New Marlborough" and at that date had sixty-three householders. As soon as possible after getting incorporated in a legal way, the inevitable meeting-house had to be planned for and constructed. The church and town were almost one and the same thing for many years. The first minister was Rev. Thomas Strong who arrived in July, 1744 and he remained pastor of the growing flock for thirty-three years. Dr. Catlin who succeeded the above was pastor for thirty-nine years. A new meeting-house had to be erected in 1793. A disagreement arose and the result was the organizing of a new church and they built at the point later known as Southfield. A Congregational society known as the Third Church was established at Mill river by fifty persons. The Baptist church was formed in 1847, with twenty members. The Roman Catholic church was organized at Mill river in 1865.

The part taken by this town in the struggle for national independence was indeed great in many ways. There were few slackers in those times. New Marlboro has always been classed as an agricultural town. Grazing has been more suitable to the farmer than grain raising. Potatoes and buckwheat have always been paying crops, however. Since 1860 considerable tobacco has been grown in the rich valleys. Apples here produced on the hillsides have an extra fine flavor. In eary days butter and cheese were made in every house and shipments of cheese were very large for

many years. But not alone has this town prospered by reason of its agricultural pursuits, but its natural water-power has been utilized to a good extent in days and decades away back. Great paper mills at Mill river flourished until driven out by transportation rates with which they not long compete. A forge was in operation for the production of bar and rod iron at a very early day. Water-power with plenty of charcoal made this industry thrifty for a long time. Tanneries were numerous and fulling mills common at one time. With the coming of more modern ways the factories here, especially paper plants were installed and have ever since been operated successfully.

The villages of the town have included Hartsville, New Marlboro, Mill river, Southfield, Clayton.

During the Civil War this town sent forth 202 soldiers and raised $26,000 for war purposes at home in caring for war widows and families. In more recent wars the town has not been numbered among the disloyal.

From 1855 to 1870 there was conducted what was known as the South Berkshire Institute, an educational institution founded on the subscription plan and was highly successful so long as the high school system was not yet created hereabouts.

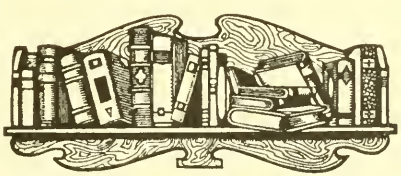
The present popuulation of this town is about 1,100.

Town of Mount Washington—This sub-division of Berkshire county is situated in the extreme southwestern corner, between two mountain ranges forming its boundary. Mount Everett, or Bald Mountain, rises 2,000 feet above Housatonic valley, and that means 2,624 feet above tide-water. Behind them, four miles to the west, is another range, along the State line of New York, of nearly equal height above the Harlem railroad which skirts their western base. The roughness and elevation preclude it from being either a good commercial or agricultural section, yet it has a very romantic and interesting history. It has for long years been noted as a fine summer resort. It is now but a short drive from New York City and hundreds of summer and autumn tourists find unalloyed delight in spending some time in this part of the county every season. Its business is farming and entertaining tourists from distant as well as near by points.

The date of first settlement is in doubt, but it is known that as early as 1730, if not much before, settlements were started in the adjoining town of Salisbury in 1720, and the Dutch from New York had settled there about that date. Those who have made it

a study, claim that the first white men to locate within Berkshire county very likely made this location their home.

After one unsuccessful attempt to have this territory made into a legal town, finally March 15, 1757 two Indian sachems, in consideration of 261 pounds New York money, in hand paid, conveyed to seventy-nine persons, residents of Mount Washington and the adjoining towns, one certain tract of land already partly described. In 1757 the proprietors organized and chose Jonathan Darby as clerk who served ten years. The town was not incorporated until June 21, 1779. Previous to 1806 the inhabitants held their religious meetings at private houses, school houses and in suitable barns. The Methodist preacher Rev. Benjamin Abbott, said that in 1789 he preached at Esquire King's to a fine congregation. Another noted preacher who preached there was Lorenzo Dow. In April, 1806, it was voted "to build a meeting-house 24 by 30 feet." Its pulpit was not supplied until 1808. The fund for ministers was divided between the Presbyterians, Methodists, Universalists and Baptists. A Congregational church was organized October, 1831, but by deaths and removals it became extinct. The Methodists were earliest in this field, but after many years finally went down. The Congregational church as well as the old Town House went to decay long ago. The first appropriation for schools was in 1800 when two districts existed. Nine years later there were three school districts. Prior to 1850 this town had its mills and forges and factories and in 1845 shovels, spades, forks, hoes, and castings were made there; but all such industry had ceased by 1850. With cities taking the lead, such small place industries of necessity had to go out of commission. In 1880 the influx of summer boarders had built up a new type of business there. Its population then was 205 while the 1920 census returns gave it only *seventy eight*, probably the least in inhabitants of any "town" in the entire country that ever had an incorporated existence.



PART IV

FRANKLIN COUNTY

CHAPTER I

CIVIL ORGANIZATION AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Franklin county was erected by an act approved June 24, 1811, and took effect December 2, the same year. The reasons set forth for the division of Hampshire county were its great size, the distances from the extremes of the old county to the seat of justice, and the consequent expenses; the multiplicity of actions and delays of trials. The petition was presented to the General Court January 28, 1811. Remonstrations, adopted in town meetings, against the division of Hampshire and the organization of Franklin county, were sent in by the towns of Northampton, Conway, Hawley, Whately, Leverett, Easthampton, Worthington, Chester, Southampton, Westhampton, Goshen, Williamsburg, Plainfield, Cummington.

The report of the legislative committee in favor of the division was made June 18, 1811, and on the 19th it was concurred in by the Senate and House.

The act establishing the county made Greenfield the county seat, but this was only accomplished by a long, bitter contest. The most prominent contestants were the towns of Deerfield and Greenfield. The chief movers in the matter were Richard E. Newcomb, Elijah Alvord, and George Grinnell on the part of Greenfield, and Epaphras Hoyt, Rufus Saxton, and Pliny Arms on behalf of Deerfield. The whole county was stirred up, and took an active part in the various movements from one and another of the principal towns.

In the month of November, 1811, a mass convention was held in Greenfield for the purpose of taking action to procure a change in the organic act and have the county seat moved to Cheapside, (Deerfield), before any of the county buildings were erected at Greenfield. Every town but two in the county had its representatives present and there was great excitement.

The records show that the first movement was to draw up and procure signatures to a petition for the annexation of the northern tier of towns in Hampshire County and Franklin County, but while this instrument was lying on the table awaiting signatures of delegates—a few signed it—it suddenly disappeared, and was never again afterward seen or heard of! But the record of this alleged

fraudulent abstraction, together with all other reasons urged for removal to Cheapside, were presented to the Legislature.

Among the many reasons given by the advocates of having the county seat at Cheapside these were included: That it was a geographical and traveling center of the new county; that the water at Cheapside was of an excellent quality, while that at Greenfield was unfit for use; that it was at the head of navigation for this part of the country, and portions of Vermont; that it was situated handsomely on the margin of Deerfield river, overlooking the adjoining meadows; that the cash in hand and subscriptions promised by the citizens of Cheapside exceeded what the people of Greenfield could possibly afford to raise.

On behalf of the claims of Greenfield were these points: First, it was claimed as the territorial center of trade; that it had more inhabitants; Greenfield had twenty well-built dwellings while Cheapside only had seven houses, five of them being small; that Greenfield had spent large sums of money for public roads; these and many more arguments were advanced by those desiring the seat of justice to be located at Greenfield.

After all the excitement and great pressure brought to bear upon the Legislature, that body refused to remove the county seat from Greenfield.

For years attempts were made to remove it to Deerfield or Cheapside, but all to no purpose and today the seat of justice is where it was originally located. The location is one unexcelled for beauty in all the magnificent scenery in Western Massachusetts.

Between the date of Greenfield's first courthouse and the organization of the county, courts were held in the hall of the old Willard tavern, at the northwest corner of Federal and Main streets. The first session of the old Common Pleas Court was held March 9, 1812, with Jonathan Leavitt, associate justice, presiding. Edward Bangs was the chief justice. At the date of the organization of Franklin county all county business was transacted by what was styled the Court of Sessions. The first meeting of this court held in Greenfield was on March 3, 1812, with Job Goodale, chief-justice, and Medad Alexander, Ebenezer Arms, Joshua Green, and Caleb Hubbard, Esquires, associate justices. The record shows the first important business there transacted was that the court ordered that in consideration of five hundred dollars, the inhabitants of Greenfield should forever have the right of holding town meetings in the courthouse about to be built. The next business was to divide the

county into jury districts—first, second, third and fourth. A committee was appointed to secure suitable plans from which to build public buildings. At the April, 1812, meeting a committee was selected to superintend the construction of the proposed buildings. The first licenses to inn-keepers and dealers in liquors were granted, the number of applicants amounting to one hundred and twelve. The jail limits were also established at this term.

Court Houses—The appropriations for county buildings were made as follows: In 1813, $2,000; 1814, $2,100; 1815, $1,900; 1816, $2,160; total $8,160. This amount doubtless covered the cost of building the courthouse and jail, which was started and probably completed in 1813. This structure cost about $6,500.

A new courthouse was constructed in 1848-49 on the west side of the park, where the present courthouse stands and which was built in 1872-73 and of which it forms a part. The money raised for the erection of the second building was as follows: In 1848, $3,000; 1849, $3,000; 1850, $3,000; 1851, $1,150; 1852, $1,100; 1853, $1,500; 1854, $5,700; 1855, $5,700; total $24,150. The large sums raised in 1854-55 doubtless covered the construction of the jail, which was erected in 1856. The total county tax in 1848 was $9,000. The courthouse erected in 1849, cost the county less than $20,000. The contractor was Isaac Damon; the county commissioners were Thomas Nims, Joseph Stevens, and Ebenezer Maynard.

After about twenty-three years the old courthouse was enlarged and remodeled and substantially rebuilt. The grounds were enlarged and the space around the building was made more roomy. The county commissioners during the rebuilding activities of this courthouse were: Nelson Burrows, Richard N. Oakman, and George D. Crittenden. The total cost of the new (present) courthouse was approximately $50,000. Its extreme dimensions are about 75 by 115 feet. The basement is stone and the superstructure is a red brick. It is two stories high and covered with an excellent slate roof.

For a number of years the county offices have been inadequate for the increasing business to be transacted therein. The construction of a new courthouse has been agitated, and recently the county commissioners have obtained permission of the Legislature to expend $70,000 for a new courthouse site. As yet (May, 1925) no action has been taken.

County Jails and House of Correction—The original jail for

Franklin county was erected probably in 1813, when the courthouse was erected. Its cost was probably about $1,500. It served as a jail until 1831 when a new one was provided. The new structure was from the quarries in Northfield. The cost of this small jail was about $4,800. It was thirty-eight feet square and was divided into eleven rooms. This building served well the purpose for which it was built until the erection of the third jail in 1856. The last named structure—jail and house of correction—built in 1856, cost about $30,000. At the date of its building this was considered one of the best built jails within the commonwealth, outside the large cities. With the passing years many prisoners have been humanely housed and cared for until their terms have been served.

The present County Jail and House of Correction was built in the eighties. It is a handsome brick structure, facing the east and only a short distance from the street car line to the northwest of the town proper. Its site is commanding, presenting a view of the surrounding country of surpassing beauty, at any season of the year.

Towns of Franklin County

Name	Date Incorporated	Name	Date Incorporated
Ashfield	June 21, 1765	Leyden	February 22, 1809
Bernardston	March 6, 1762	Monroe	February 21, 1822
Buckland	April 17, 1779	Montague	December 22, 1753
Charlemont	June 21, 1765	New Salem	June 15, 1753
Conway	June 16, 1767	Northfield	February 22, 1713
Colerain	June 30, 1761	Orange	February 24, 1810
Deerfield	May 24, 1682	Rowe	February 9, 1785
Erving	April 17, 1838	Shelburne	June 21, 1768
Gill	September 28, 1793	Shutesbury	June 30, 1761
Greenfield	June 9, 1753	Sutherland	November 12, 1714
Hawley	February 14, 1785	Warwick	February 17, 1763
Heath	February, 1785	Wendell	May 8, 1781
Leverett	May, 1774	Whately	April 24, 1771

New Towns and Changes—The Town of Monroe was erected February 21, 1822, and the Town of Erving, from Erving's grant, April 17, 1838. April 2d, 1838, the unincorporated district of Zoar was divided, and a part of it set off to Charlemont and Rowe, in Franklin county, and a part to Florida, in Berkshire county.

It will be observed that the various towns of this county were all incorporated or organized prior to 1800, except Orange, in 1810,

Monroe in 1822, Erving in 1838 and Leyden in 1809. The oldest town is Deerfield, incorporated in 1682, hence ranks among the early towns in New England.

County Taxation—The county's taxes have increased with the growth of the country and increase of its population ever since its incorporation. The first account of the treasurer in 1812 showed receipts of $317.12. The first county tax levied in 1812 was for $2,500. At various periods the amount raised for taxes was as follows: In 1812, $2,500; 1833, $8,000; 1844, $6,000; 1850, $10,000; 1855, $18,000; 1860, $20,000; 1870, $25,000; 1873, $35,000; 1878, $38,000. In about this rate of increase the taxes have been levied until the present date. The amount of taxes received in 1922 was $132,040.00. The last tax levy, that in 1924, was $149,115.00.

County Officers for 1925—Clerk of the courts—Hugh E. Adams, assistant clerk of the courts—Bulah G. Upham; sheriff—James B. Bridges; county commissioners—Eugene B. Blake, Allen C. Burnham, William B. Avery; judge of probate court—Francis Nims Thompson; special judge of probate—Clifton L. Field; register of probate court—John C. Lee; assistant register of probate court—Ellen K. O'Keefe; register of deeds—William Blake Allen; assistant register of deeds—Elizabeth M. O'Keefe; county treasurer—Eugene A. Newcomb; master of the House of Correction and keeper of jail—Fred W. Doane; Mrs. Myrtle P. Doane, matron; H. J. Cook, Frank S. Sweet and Edward A. Pratt, turnkeys; Edward Masterson, night watchman, Herbert Dutton, fireman and farmer; G. P. Park, assistant; jail physician—Dr. Enoch G. Best; janitor at the courthouse—Charles F. Shattuck; public administrators—Frank H. Snow, Thomas L. Lawler, Arthur M. Haskins; court stenographer—May Ide Swift; District Court of Franklin—Philip H. Ball, justice; special justice—Samuel D. Conant; special justice, Turners Falls, James J. Leary; clerk—William S. Allen. District court of Eastern Franklin—Elisha S. Hall, justice, Orange; Hartley W. Walker, special justice, Orange; James R. Kimball, clerk. The district attorney is Thomas J. Hammond, of Northampton.

Civil List of Franklin County—Since the organization of the county the following have served as county officials, for a longer or shorter term of years:

Chief Justices Court of Sessions—Job Goodale, 1811-18; John Hooker, 1819-21; Elijah Paine, 1822-27. This office was abolished in 1828 and was followed by another court system.

Judges of Probate—Solomon Smead, 1811; Jonathan Leavitt, 1814; Richard E. Newcomb, 1821; George Grinnell, 1849; H. G. Parker, 1853; Franklin Ripley, 1854; Charles Mattoon, 1858; Chester C. Conant, 1870-1900; Francis M. Thompson, 1900-14; Francis Nims Thompson, 1914 to present.

Registers of Probate—Isaac B. Barber, 1811; Elijah Alvord, 1812; George Grinnell, 1841; Wendell T. Davis, 1849; S. O. Lamb, 1851; Charles Mattoon, 1853-56; Charles J. Ingersoll, 1858; C. C. Conant, 1863; Francis M. Thompson, 1870-1899 and was succeeded by his son Francis Nims Thompson until 1914 when the present incument John C. Lee came into office.

Sheriffs—John Nevers, 1811; Elihu Lyman, Jr., 1811; E. Hoyt, 1814; John Nevers, 1831-46; Samuel H. Reed, 1847; James S. Whitney, 1851; Samuel H. Reed, 1853; Charles Pomeroy, 1855; Samuel H. Reed, 1856-68; Solomon C. Wells, 1868-77; George A. Kimball, 1877-93; Isaac Chenery, 1893-1910; William M. Smead, 1910-11; Edson J. Pratt, 1911-17; James B. Bridges, 1917 to present date.

Clerks of the Court—Rodolphus Dickinson, 1811; Elijah Alvord, 1820; Henry Chapman, 1840; George Grinnell, 1852; Edward E. Lyman, 1866-97; Clifton L. Field, 1897-21; Hugh E. Adams, 1921 to present.

County Finances in 1924-25—The total receipts of the county in 1924 were $253,725.70, and the expenditures amounted to $235,564.-84. This left a balance of $18,160.86 on hand January 1, 1925.

The county paid the Commonwealth for State Highways for the years 1922-23-24, the sum of $67,827.86.

The county commissioners' report for 1924 shows the total budget for 1925 calls for $186,284.11, less available cash on hand, $26,574.11, an increase over previous years of $10,690. This makes the total levy for 1925, $159,710.00. This increase was caused by the expense incurred in constructing new fire-proof vaults for the Probate Court, office of the Clerk of the Court and a wall around the jail, etc.

Salaries of County Officers (Fixed by Law)—Clerk of the Courts, $2,400; assistant clerk of the courts, $1,560; register of deeds, $2,766.50; assistant register of deeds, $1,659.90; County commissioners, $2,250; Sheriff, $1,374.84; treasurer, $1,363.44; jailer, $1,500; turnkey, $1,500; assistant turnkey, $1,400; watchman, $1,400; fireman and farmer, $1,400. Total, $20,574.68.

The salaries fixed by the county commissioners are: Three clerks for register of deeds, $1,040 each; one clerk for register of

deeds, $910; one clerk for clerk of courts, $1,040; janitor at court-house, $1,500; matron at jail, $500; physician at jail, $400; chaplain at jail, $150; organist at jail, $80. Total amount paid all county officers in salaries, $28,744.48, as per lists above named.

The salaries of other officers are fixed by the Legislature, such as the Judge of Probate and Register of Probate.

CHAPTER II

THE BAR OF FRANKLIN COUNTY

After the settlement of any new country the legal and medical professions are soon represented as needed adjuncts to a successful advancement in civilized life. William Coleman, almost universally styled "Lawyer Coleman," is credited by all former historians as being the pioneer lawyer in what is now known as Franklin county. He was born in Boston in 1776, studied law at Worcester with Judge Paine, and settled in Greenfield, just prior to 1800. In an early historical account of Greenfield this lawyer was mentioned as excelling in everything, even in athletic exercises; in music, dancing, and especially in writing. He had a large, profitable law practice, made money and invested in some Virginia land schemes by which he was a heavy loser. Soon after 1800 he moved to New York and there became a noted Federal politician and the editor of the "New York Evening Post," the first number of which was issued November 19, 1801. It was this publication which boasted of such men as Alexander Hamilton being among their regular contributors. At one time he was a law partner of Aaron Burr. He continued as editor of this great journal twenty years, until his decease, when he was succeeded by William Cullen Bryant. He was clerk of the courts in New York City, at a salary of $3,000 a year. He was the author of several law volumes. While at Greenfield he planted numerous elm trees that still thrive as almost giant trees, the same being living, swaying monuments to the memory of the town's first lawyer. In 1829 he was thrown from a carriage and from such injuries as he there received, he died, July 13, 1829.

Jonathan Leavitt a graduate of Yale College in 1786, studied law in New Haven, and settled in Greenfield about 1700. He was Senator, Judge of Probate from 1814 to 1821, as well as judge of the Court of Common Pleas. He was a polished scholar and close student in law throughout his career. He died aged thirty-six years in 1830. While yet practicing law in Greenfield he was appointed to a seat on the bench.

Without going far into the details of the personnel of the Bar of this county it may be wise to record the names of a number of the men who were successful lawyers in the nineteenth century.

Richard English Newcomb, who studied law with William Coleman and was admitted to the bar in 1796. He was representative to the General Court, County Attorney and Judge of Probate. He was an old-school attorney, possessed a vigorous constitution and a strong will. At the dedication of the second courthouse in Greenfield in 1849, he although in feeble health, made an able, and eloquent address, which was long remembered by those present. He passed from earth's shining circle in 1849, aged seventy-nine years.

Horatio Gates Newcomb, brother of the attorney just mentioned, was born in 1785, studied law with John Barrett, of Northfield, and with his brother in Greenfield, and was admitted to practice in 1813. In 1827 he located in Greenfield, as a partner of his brother and continued until his death. Williams College conferred upon him the degree of Master of Arts. He was a member of the Massachusetts Legislature, Master of Chancery and Judge of the Insolvency Court. A member of the bar in speaking of this lawyer said: "He was employed much in the settlement of estates and in probate business; was a good lawyer and counselor, and always advised to that course which was for the interest of his client, not his own. He took a deep interest in public and local questions. He was kind and sympathizing, and if he was not one of the greatest, he was, what is of much more value, one of the best of men." He died at the age of seventy-two years in 1857, at his home in Greenfield.

Samuel Clesson Allen was first a minister and settled in Northfield, but believing he had missed his calling entered law after one year in the pulpit. He was a student under John Barrett and was admitted to the bar in 1800. In 1822 he came from New Salem, Massachusetts, to Greenfield. It has been said of him that he "pursued agriculture, practiced law, prosecuted his political and literary studies, and reared a family of children." Three of this man's sons became eminent lawyers, two of them members of Congress from Maine, and one, Elisha H. Allen, chancellor and chief-justice of the Sandwich Islands. The elder Allen was State Senator, county attorney, and a member of Congress from this district from 1816 to 1828. He was an accomplished scholar, and a statesman of high national standing.

The Alvord families were well represented among the legal profession hereabouts. These included Elijah, son of Caleb Alvord, admitted to the courts in 1802; his son was James C. Alvord, admitted to practice in 1830. He was elected Congressman in 1838, but died before he was able to take his seat in that body. A fellow

associate at the bar said of him: "Law was the idol of his love, the field of his greatest ambition. It was the shrine at which he worshiped. He loved it as a science, he loved it in practice, and to it he devoted his full days and partly into the night. Though but thirty years of age when called hence, he had few equals, and no superiors at this or any other bar."

Another member of the Alvord family was D. W. Alvord, son of Elijah Alvord, born in 1817, studied law with Wells, Alvord & Davis, and was admitted to practice in 1841. He died in Virginia in 1871 aged fifty-four years.

Hon. George Grinnell, born 1786, entered Dartmouth College from which he graduated at the age of twenty-two years. He then entered the law office of Hon. Richard English Newcomb, and was admitted to the bar in 1811. He commenced practice in the new county of Franklin, which was organized that year, and opened an office in Greenfield. Was county attorney from 1820 to 1828, and from 1824 to 1827 was a State Senator. In 1828 he was elected a Congressman, his service as such commencing the day Andrew Jackson was inaugurated President. He served in Congress 1830, 1832, 1834, and 1836. He returned to Greenfield and entered law practice again. He was one of the promotors of the Troy & Greenfield railroad company, and was its first president. In connection with Hon. Whiting Griswold and others, he aided in the construction scheme of the great Hoosac Tunnel under Hoosac Mountains. Mr. Grinnell lived to the age of ninety-one years. His son James S. Grinnell, was admitted to the bar in 1846, but soon forsook law for clerkships in the Agricultural Department and in the U. S. Patent Office in Washington, D. C. Later he returned to Greenfield where he lived many years.

Other attorneys at this bar included Franklin Ripley, born 1789; Daniel Wells, State Senator, and chief-justice of the Court of Common Pleas. Hon. Whiting Griswold, a distinguished member of the bar; Ex-Governor Emory Washburn practiced law in Franklin county for a season then moved to Leicester, the village of his birth. The list of able lawyers may well be extended to include such men as Pliny Arms, Jonathan Saxton, Elijah Paine, Sylvester Maxwell, Joseph P. Allen, John Drury, Isaac Barber, Jonathan Hartwell, Stephen Emery, William Billings, Horace W. Taft, Henry Barnard, Benjamin Brainard, nearly all of whom practiced law in this county between 1811 and the building of the second courthouse in 1848.

As a matter of convenient reference, the following list of the attorneys practicing in and belonging to the Franklin County Bar, from 1811 to 1880, will here be inserted, the date refers to their admission:

Greenfield—William Coleman, Jonathan Leavitt, (about 1789) Richard E. Newcomb, 1796; Elijah Alvord, 1802; Elihu Lyman, 1806; George Grinnell, about 1811; Hooker Leavitt, 1811; Franklin Ripley, about 1812; David Willard, 1812; David Brigham, 1812; Daniel Wells, 1813; Horatio G. Newcomb, 1813; Samuel Wells, 1816; Henry Chapman, 1826; Almon Brainard, 1829; James C. Alvord, 1830; George T. Davis, in 1832; David Aiken, 1833; Charles Mattoon, 1839; Daniel W. Alvord, 1841; Wendell T. Davis, 1841; Charles Devens, Jr., in 1841; Whiting Griswold, 1842; Franklin Ripley, Jr., 1845; James S. Grinnell, 1846; Horatio G. Parker, 1847; George D. Wells, 1849; Charles Allen, 1850; Samuel O. Lamb, 1851; Edward F. Raymond, 1854; W. S. B. Hopkins, 1858; George W. Bartlett, 1859; Chester Cook Conant, 1859; James C. Davis, 1861; Edward E. Lyman, 1861; Austin De Wolf, 1863; G. D. Williams, 1868; William H. Gile, 1869; George L. Barton, 1871; John A. Aiken, Franklin G. Fessenden; Francis M. Thompson, 1876; Henry L. Nelson; Bowdoin S. Parker, Samuel D. Conant, 1878.

Deerfield—Pliny Arms, 1805; Rodolphus Dickinson, 1808; Jonathan A. Saxton, about 1817; Aaron Arms, 1817; Elijah Williams, about 1825.

Northfield—Samuel C. Allen, 1808; John Nevers, 1808; John Barrett, 1808; Benjamin R. Curtis, 1832; William W. Woodard, about 1833; Solomon Vose.

Charlemont—Sylvester Maxwell, 1804; Joseph P. Allen, 1817; Emery Washburn, 1821; Edwin H. Parker, 1842.

Ashfield—Elijah Paine, about 1793.

Conway—William Billings, 1812; Charles Baker, 1825; Albert C. Clark, 1847; John Newton, 1853.

Sunderland—Horace W. Taft, about 1810; Henry Barnard, date unknown.

Montague—Jonathan Hartwell, 1812; Timothy M. Dewey, 1855; William S. Dana.

Orange—Stephen Emery, about 1811; Rufus D. Chase, 1849; Edgar V. Wilson, 1876.

Gill—Benjamin Brainard, 1815.

Whately—Justin W. Clark, about 1825.

Colerain—Isaac B. Barker, 1808; John Drury, Jr., 1811; William Lanfair, 1845.

Shelburne—Arthur Maxwell, 1849; Samuel T. Field, 1852.

Shutesbury—William Ward.

It is not practicable to trace out all lawyers who have belonged to the bar of Franklin county for the last half century. The above has given the names of many and the present bar includes the following:

Greenfield—H. E. Adams, William S. Allen, Philip H. Ball, Joseph T. Bartlett, H. H. Duncan, William S. Clark, Samuel D. Conant, William A. Davenport, Charles Fairhurst, Clifton L. Field, Henry J. Field, L. W. Griswold, Timothy M. Hayes, Roland H. P. Jacobus, Frank J. Lawler, John C. Lee, M. J. Levy, Abner S. Mc Laud, James A. Moynihan, George K. Pond, Charles N. Stoddard, Francis Nims Thompson, Harry E. Ward, Herbert P. Ware.

Deerfield—Philip H. Ball.

South Deerfield—Parker D. Martin.

Charlemont—Homer Sherman.

Shelburne Falls—John T. Manning, Herbert P. Ware.

Turners Falls—James J. Leary.

Officials of the County of Franklin—(By Hon. Francis Nims Thompson)—"Little Franklin" was born on the twenty-fourth day of June, 1811, the northern twenty-six towns of Old Hampshire County being that day incorporated as a new county. There had been a registry of deeds for Northern Hampshire at Deerfield since 1787 and its records are the oldest in the Greenfield courthouse. Earlier records of deeds are at Springfield, and at Northampton are court records prior to 1812.

In April, 1812, the first session of the new Probate Court was "holden at Greenfield," Judge Solomon Smead presiding. His grandfather, an early settler of Greenfield, was grandson of that William Smead who was one of the first settlers of Deerfield. Judge Smead was succeeded in 1814 by Hon. Jonathan Leavitt, whose mansion still dignifies the Main Street of Greenfield. The first register of the court, Isaac Barber, went to be a captain in the War of 1812, and Elijah Alvord, 2d, was register for the next twenty-eight years. He married a sister of Hon. Daniel Wells, of Greenfield, and their daughter married the son of Hon. Richard E. Newcomb, who became judge of the Probate Court in 1821. Judge Newcomb's wife was the daughter of General Joseph War-

ren, of Bunker Hill fame; and his brother, Judge Horatio G. Newcomb, was judge of the Court of Insolvency before the office of judge of probate and insolvency was created in 1858. George Grennell, Jr., in 1840 succeeded Mr. Alvord as register of probate.

The county's first clerk of the courts was Rodolphus Dickinson, of Deerfield, who later became an Episcopal minister; then Elijah Alvord was clerk from 1820 to 1840, and then Henry Chapman. The first county attorney was Elihu Lyman, Jr., of Greenfield, and John Nevers, of Northfield, was the first sheriff. A month later these gentlemen exchanged offices, but in 1812 Samuel C. Allen, of New Salem, became county attorney. He was followed in 1821 by George Grennell, Jr., and in 1829 by R. E. Newcomb, both afterward judges of probate. In 1837 the county attorney had given place to an attorney for the western district, and Daniel Wells, of Greenfield, was the first to hold the position. When he became the chief justice of the Court of Common Pleas, in 1844, a Berkshire County man was appointed district attorney.

Epaphrus Hoyt, previously register of deeds, became in 1814 the third sheriff of the new county. In 1831 the first sheriff, Mr. Nevers, again occupied that office. He died in 1847, and Samuel H. Reed, of Rowe, became "high sheriff." John Williams and Elijah Williams had been registers of deeds in northern Hampshire, and Epaphrus Hoyt, of Deerfield, was the first for the new county of Franklin. After Elijah Alvord, 2d, who was the original county treasurer, became register of the Probate Court in 1812, Mr. Hoyt was both register of deeds and county treasurer. He was succeeded in both these offices in 1815 by Hooker Leavitt, and in 1842 by Almon Brainard, both of Greenfield.

"Our second court house was erected in 1848 by Thomas Nims, Joseph Stevens, and Ebenezer Maynard, then county commissioners. These men were among the ablest and most conscientious of all the boards who have held that important office" said Hon. Whiting Griswold in an address delivered twenty-five years later. In 1849 Thomas Nims and most of his children died from typhoid fever, and his brother Lucius Nims was elected to the vacancy on the county board. The court house of 1848, a severely simple building as portrayed on the county wall map issued in 1858, was placed on the opposite side of the common from the original courthouse. To the new building were removed the offices of Judge Newcomb and Register Grennell of the Probate Court, Henry Chapman, clerk of the courts, and Almond Brainard, the county treasurer

and register of deeds; and the second period of the county's history had begun.

The next May Judge Newcomb died, after being on the probate bench for twenty-eight years. Register Grennell was appointed judge of the court. He lived to an advanced age, was State Senator and for ten years member of Congress. Hon. George Grennell and his son, James S. Grennell, resided at the head of Greenfield's beautiful Main Street, and through their farm George, James, Grennell and Orchard streets were laid. Under Judge Grennell served as registers for short terms Wendell T. Davis and Samuel O. Lamb, men of worth and lawyers of ability. Many recall "Squire Lamb," a gentleman of the old school—courteous, studious and determined. After the resignation of Judge Grennell in 1853, Horatio G. Parker, Esq., of Greenfield, was judge of probate for a few months, but removed to Boston where he practiced law during a long and useful life. He was followed in 1854 by Hon. Franklin Ripley, who became the next year president of the local bank (now the First National) after serving thirty-three years as its cashier. Charles Mattoon, of Northfield, was register of the Probate Court from 1853 until he was appointed judge of probate and insolvency in 1858. Charles J. J. Ingersoll was elected as register of those courts and at his death in 1863 was succeeded by Chester C. Conant, Esq. In 1870 Judge Mattoon died, and Mr. Conant was appointed judge and Francis M. Thompson was elected register of probate and insolvency. For over twenty-eight years they conducted in perfect harmony the business of the courts and during this period the register modernized the system of filing, docketing and indexing the cases.

Sheriff Reed remained in office until 1868, with the exception of two periods, 1851-53 and 1855-56, during which James S. Whitney, of Conway, and Charles Pomeroy, of Northfield, wore the blue coat and buff vest with brass buttons which distinguished the occupants of that position. Solomon C. Wells, of Greenfield, was elected sheriff in 1871.

Messrs. Chapman and Brainard did not remain many years in the new court house. George Grennell was clerk of the courts 1852 to 1866, when he was succeeded by Edward E. Lyman, of Greenfield; and in 1856 Humphrey Stevens became register of deeds, and Edward Benton assumed that office in 1872. The county treasurers after 1856 were Lewis Merriam, of the "Merriam bookstore," Daniel H. Newton, 1862 to 1865, and then Bela Kellogg.

"And now we enter upon the third period of our judicial history" said Whiting Griswold in his address at the opening of court in 1873 in a remodelled court house. The building lost its simple dignity in the process of alteration, and the additions were inferior to the original building, but the main court room is still the "large, well-proportioned, commodious court and audience room" which the orator proclaimed it more than fifty years ago.

Clerk Lyman, confined to his home by serious illness, was alloted the front south rooms of the remodelled building as his offices. The front north rooms became the registry of deeds. In 1880 Edwin Stratton came from Shelburne Falls to be the register. His daughter acted as his assistant and continued in the office until 1912. During Mr. Stratton's administration new indexes were prepared under the supervision of Samuel D. Conant, Esq.

In the rear of the registry of deeds and opposite the registry of probate was a little room whose door bore the sign of the "County Treasurer" and within which stood the sheriff's desk. The treasurer transacted business at his store and the sheriff seldom used his official desk, but Rufus A. Lilly was there much of the time; so the place was known as "Rufus' room" to those who frequented the court house. Mr. Lilly was entitled the "court messenger," though that office and the title of court crier had perished in 1859 with the old Court of Common Pleas, of which Hon. David Aiken (father of Chief Justice Aiken of the Superior Court) was a judge. "Mr. Crier, wind up this court and yourself" were the words in which the judge is said to have ordered final proclamation. Thirty and more years ago there was often the tapping of a cane upon the marble floor of the court house corridor until a spare and erect old figure stood framed in Rufus' doorway; and sometimes there was a receding sound of the cane if it happened that an occupant of the room did not appeal to the discriminating taste of "the old judge." Within a stern exterior this man of ninety years was most companionable, but he had no desire to barter the gems of his richly stored legal mind for the flippant talk of some garrulous loafer. Mr. Lilly was until 1902 the janitor of the court house, and the genial host of a circle of amateur but able entertainers among whom Sheriffs Chenery and Pratt were the best tellers of stories, though how Sheriff Kimball misinterpreted as "suffering" the scales run by the musical occupant of the building was excellent as rendered by Mr. Lilly, whose stock of merry tales brought others in return.

His place was not to be filled and after his departure the room

went too, being added in 1905 to the record room of the registry of deeds. John D. Bouker, of Greenfield, elected register in 1897, was a helpful and faithful public servant. During his last illness the registry was excellently administered by the competent assistant register, Miss Elizabeth M. O'Keefe. After the death of Mr. Bouker in August, 1918, Wm. Blake Allen, for many years treasurer of the town and fire district of Greenfield, was appointed and then elected as register. Though the Legislature of 1917 authorized the taking of land and erection of a building, the registry still occupies rooms wholly inadequate for the business transacted.

The District Court of Franklin is located in rented quarters in the rear of the Masonic Building. It was established in 1896, and Edward E. Lyman, Esq., then clerk of the courts, became its first justice. William S. Allen, Esq., has been clerk of that court since its creation. Hon. Philip H. Ball, of Deerfield, is now justice of the court with Samuel D. Conant, Esq., and James J. Leary, Esq., as associate justices. Henry J. Field, Esq., was appointed justice following the death of Judge Lyman in 1906, and resigned in 1924. Hon. Elisha S. Hall, of Orange, is the justice of the District Court of Eastern Franklin, having jurisdiction over Orange and four adjoining towns.

Samuel O. Lamb, Esq., then the Nestor of the local bar, acted as clerk of the courts following Mr. Lyman's resignation until in January, 1897, Clifton L. Field, Esq., qualified as clerk. Mr. Field resigned to give his time to manufacturing, but accepted an appointment as special judge of probate, succeeding Frederick L. Greene, who died in 1922. Hugh E. Adams, now clerk of the courts, was elected in 1920.

In May, 1899, Judge Conant of the Probate Court resigned because of failing health. Francis M. Thompson, Esq., the ninth register of that court, was made its ninth judge. Born in the hills of Colerain, he came in boyhood to Greenfield, but as a young man went west and was a member of the first territorial legislature of Montana and the designer of the great seal of that state. Returning to Greenfield, he married the daughter of Hon. Lucius Nims, held the most important town offices and wrote the "History of Greenfield" published in 1904. Holding modestly the confidence of all and exercising with kindness his authority, he was "guide, counsellor and friend" to the people of his county during the forty-three years between his first election as register and his resignation from the probate bench at the age of eighty. His son, Francis

Nims Thompson, who came into the probate office in 1890 as clerk to the register, was appointed in 1893 assistant register, and in 1899 register of probate upon the unanimous petition of the county bar. Elected without opposition in 1899, 1903, 1908, and 1913 as register, he was appointed judge of the Probate Court in 1914. John C. Lee, Esq., was appointed register to fill the vacancy and has since been elected to that office. He had previously practiced law in Greenfield. Miss Ellen K. O'Keefe, assistant register of the court, has served the people of the county with rare ability and fidelity for more than twenty-five years.

The sheriffs of the county have secured superior men as their deputies, and from among these deputies the new sheriffs have been selected by the people of the county. Sheriff Wells was succeeded by George A. Kimball, of Greenfield, who had been a deputy for ten years. He was a man of much dignity and sterling integrity and was sheriff from 1877 to 1892, when Isaac Chenery, of Montague, was elected sheriff. Mr. Chenery died in office in 1909, and William M. Smead, of Greenfield, an able man who had been a deputy for twenty-four years, was appointed and then elected to fill the vacancy. He declined renomination because of poor health, but survived by nearly a year his successor as sheriff. Edson J. Pratt, of Millers Falls, who became a deputy sheriff in 1893, was a man widely loved and respected. He was elected sheriff in 1910 and 1915, but died in June, 1916, and was succeeded by the present sheriff, James B. Bridges, of South Deerfield. Among his deputies William Henry Ward, formerly of Montague and now of Greenfield, is the dean, having been a deputy sheriff since 1890.

Many other deputies deserve mention for their bravery or discretion in the performnace of the difficult and often disagreable duties of their office. Emmett F. Haskins, of Charlemont, was in 1910 shot and killed in the fearless pursuit of a criminal in Monroe.

In recent years "little Franklin" has furnished to the Superior Court both Chief Justice John Adams Aiken, who was appointed to that bench in 1898 and served some twenty-five years, becoming chief justice in 1905, and Hon. Franklin Goodridge Fessenden, who was appointed in 1891, and at his retirement in 1922 was the senior justice. These men were appointed from Greenfield and, contrary to custom, retained their residence in their beautiful home town. Greenfield also furnished the state from 1906 to 1911 an excellent attorney-general in Hon. Dana Malone, whose tragic death in 1917 cut short a career in which greater honors seemed probable. Both

Judge Aiken and Mr. Malone had served as district attorneys.

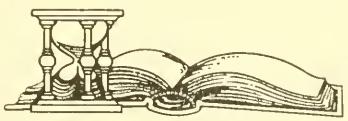
The present county treasurer, Eugene A. Newcomb, of Greenfield, has been repeatedly elected to that position since he succeeded C. M. Moody who was treasurer from 1876 to 1894.

When the present court house was dedicated in March, 1873, Nelson Burrows, George D. Crittenden, and R. N. Oakman, were the county commissioners. Mr. Oakman had told the probate officials that pine cases were good enough to hold the public records and files and if they wanted anything better they might pay the bills. The judge and register of probate had black walnut cases installed, and paid for them. After the election of 1873 Mr. Oakman was replaced by John M. Smith. Carlos Batchelder was elected in '74 and Lyman G. Barton in '75.

Mr. Smith was reëlected in 1876 and '79; and was succeeded by Edward F. Mayo, of Warwick, who was elected in 1882 and again in '85; and Franklin L. Waters, of Orange, was elected in 1888 and served until after the election of 1900. Mr. Batchelder was succeeded in 1889 by Lyman A. Crafts, of Whately, who rendered excellent service for twelve years. Mr. Barton was followed in 1884 by Frederick G. Smith, of Greenfield, and in 1893 by Charles Howes, of Ashfield, who was reëlected in '96 and '99.

Again the county board was renewed in a two-year period, and Osgood L. Leach, of Northfield, was elected in 1900, Eugene B. Blake, of Greenfield, in 1901, and James D. Avery in 1902. In 1908 Allen C. Burnham, of Montague, was elected to succeed J. D. Avery, and in 1915 William B. Avery was chosen to follow Mr. Leach. Since 1919, county commissioners have been elected for four-year terms.

Since the foregoing account was written the commissioners have taken, as part of the premises required for new county buildings, the W. W. Davenport property on east Main Street; and within another decade may begin the fourth "period of our judicial history".



CHAPTER III

FRANKLIN DISTRICT MEDICAL SOCIETY

This society was formed at Greenfield, January, 1851, and the following officers were elected: President, Stephen W. Williams, Deerfield; secretary and treasurer, James Deane, Greenfield; librarian, Alpheus S. Stone, Greenfield; counselors—Drs. Stone, Hamilton, Williams; censors, James Deane, D. W. Carpenter, C. M. Duncan. This society was legally sanctioned by the State Medical Society on the first of the following June.

The physicians who were practicing in this county forty-five years ago—or in 1880—were inclusive of these: Drs. Edward Barton, Robert Andrews, J. H. Goddard, of Orange. Stephen W. Williams, R. N. Porter, John Q. Adams McAllister, Charles A. Packard, D. M. Elliott, George M. Reed, of Deerfield and South Deerfield, James Deane, Adams C. Deane, Daniel Hovey, L. D. Seymour, Charles H. Spring, Joseph Draper, Noah S. Wells, Jonathan W. D. Osgood, W. S. Severance, A. C. Walker, C. L. Fisk, Jr., Thomas Womersley, of Greenfield. Chenery Puffer, Milo Wilson, Stephen J. W. Tabor, J. W. Bement, A. H. Taylor, Charles E. Severance, F. J. Canedy, C. M. Wilson, of Shelburne Falls. Charles L. Knowlton, Geo. R. Fessenden, James R. Fairbanks, of Ashfield. Charles M. Duncan, Shelburne. Stephen Bates, Charlemont. Josiah Trow, Buckland. Charles T. Lyons, Charles Warren Green, E. S. Weston, O. H. Lamb, Colerain. Humphrey Gould, David Bradford, E. A. Deane, Montague. Charles A. Wilson, E. C. Coy, Montague City. Fayette Clapp, David Rice, Leverett. Elijah Stratton, Marshal S. Mead, A. B. Rice, R. C. Ward, Northfield. Gardner C. Hill, Charles Barber, Warwick. Cyrus Temple, Heath. A. E. Kemp, Wm. H. Hills, New Salem. Noyes Barstow, William Dwight, Charles Bowker, O. A. Wheeler, Bernardston. E. D. Hamilton, Martin L. Mead, Conway. E. P. Burton, Gill. S. Walter Scott, C. E. Hall, E. R. Campbell, Turners Falls. D. J. Jacobs, Charles W. Stockman, Millers Falls.

These physicians with a few more who were not members of the County or District Medical Society, constituted the physicians of Franklin county in the seventies and eighties. Other histories of this county contain biographies of several early-day doctors here, but the list is all too long to reproduce. However, a few paragraphs

on the lives and characters of some of the pioneer physicians of the county should be here annexed:

Dr. Alpheus Fletcher Stone was born in Rutland, Worcester county, Massachusetts, May 7, 1778. In his younger days he taught school in Connecticut. In 1798 or 1799 he came to Greenfield where he entered the office of his older brother, Dr. John Stone, who later moved to Springfield, where he died. He continued his medical studies for two years, and became one of the most noted physicians of his times and continued in the active practice of medicine for fifty years, and commenced practice at Greenfield, Christmas Day, 1801. During the last twenty-five years of his practice he was consulted very widely throughout the Connecticut Valley. He became a fellow of the Massachusetts Medical Association in 1814, and was one of its chief Counselors for a quarter of a century.

Another family many members of which followed the medical profession in this county was that of the Deanes. The ancestor of these physicians was Dr. Christopher Deane, born in Stonington, Connecticut, 1783. He attended the Deerfield Academy and taught school later for several winters. He studied medicine with Dr. Samuel Ross the first settled physician at Colerain and commenced his practice in 1807, continuing until July, 1854. He had a fine medical library and kept fully up to date with his profession. Others physicians in the Deane family were Drs. James Deane, son of Christopher Deane; Dr. Adams C. Deane, born in Colerain, 1823. But few families had as many well-read and successful medical men in New England as the Deane family.

Other quite noted pioneer doctors of medicine were Drs. Wells, Walker, Barnard, Haynes, Samuel Prentiss, Allen, Amos Taylor, Charles Earl Severance, Barton, Brooks, Canedy, Field, Hamilton, and Cook. In their day and generation they studied and used the best of judgment, were honorable gentlemen and followed the best instructions to be had in their school of medicine, thus saving pain and life in many cases. The "family doctor" of a century ago was a man of high character as a general rule, and they remained in the community many years, generally through life and when overtaken by death were mourned by members of two and sometimes three generations of citizens of the county in which they practiced. Present (1925) practicing physicians are as follows: Deerfield—W. K. Clark, P. W. Goldsbury. South Deerfield—K. H. Rice, W. G. Watt. East Northfield—R. H. Philbrook. Erving—F. E. Johnson. Greenfield—F. J. Barnard, E. G. Best, W. K. Clark,

C. F. Canedy (died May, 1925), B. F. Croft, A. H. Ellis, E. B. Finch, died 1925, H. N. Howe, E. H. Hughes, A. E. Johnson, Jr., W. H. Pierce, H. M. Kemp, J. A., Mather, F. A. Millett, J. C. O'Brien, H. G. Stetson, G. P. Twitchell, Francis W. Donahue, Thos T. Fyfe, P. S. W. Geddis. Shelburne Falls—F. J. Canedy, H. B. Marble, J. S. Outhouse, W. A. Smith, C. L. Upton. Sunderland—Charles Moline. Turners Falls—P. F. Leary, W. J. Pelletier, C. R. Vinal, and R. A. McGillicuddy.

The present officers of the Franklin County Medical Society are as follows: F. A. Millett, Greenfield, president; P. F. Leary, Turners Falls, vice-president; Charles Moline, Sunderland, secretray and treasurer.

Farren Memorial Hospital—This institution was established and incorporated in 1900 by Bernard N. Farren, one of the constructors of the great Hoosac Tunnel, in memory of his son Frank Farren, aged twenty-three at the date of his death. It is situated in Montague City, on the main street and electric car line. It is a three-story red brick structure, with a fifty-bed capacity. The corporation is governed by a large number of competent trustees, the Bishop of the Diocese of the Catholic church is president of the board, while many of the trustees are local men in and near Greenfield and Turners Falls. The hospital, proper, is upon a handsome large plat of well-kept lawn, with cottages and other houses in which the Sisters in charge reside, as well as nurses. One of these buildings is known as the White House, and another "The Nurses Home." At the present there are twenty-five trained nurses and sixteen Sisters connected with the institution.

Hanging on the wall of the spacious office, may be seen a life-size oil-portrait of Frank Farren; there stands on a pedestal in the reception room a true-to-life marble bust of young Farren.

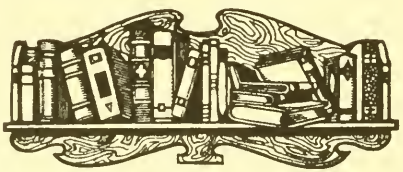
Franklin County Public Hospital—This hospital had its inception in February, 1895, when thirty-six persons signed "An Agreement of Association," for the organization of what was to be styled "Franklin County Public Hospital." The late Rev. Dr. Francis L. Robbins' residence was leased one year and September 9, 1895, the hospital was opened for service, with Miss Nellie Daniels as superintendent and Miss Anna Moritz first pupil nurse in training school. It so happened that Dr. Robbins was the first patient the hospital had.

October, 1897, the Converse house on Main Street was leased and

a more permanent home was given the hospital, the same being opened January 1, 1898. Judge Charles Allen, of Boston, donated the institution $10,000 with which the corporation made payments for the purchase of their newly acquired home on Main Street. The first officers of the corporation were: Levi J. Gunn, president; Franklin R. Allen, vice-president; Frank J. Lawler, treasurer; Eliza B. Leonard, secretary; Anna Sweeney, superintendent.

The next change was March 10, 1910, when the present hospital was opened. It has sixty beds and twenty-six nurses are employed constantly. This hospital is located in High Street, near Beacon and with other streets surrounds a full block of land. This ground was bought by the hospital corporation in 1906 for $8,000. The buildings, with the furnishings cost $70,000. On the southwest corner of the grounds is located the Isolation Hospital, for contagious diseases. The physicians and surgeons in charge so far have been local men who usually serve three months at a period. Ten are employed on the medical staff.

On account of a demand for larger quarters and better facilities, the citizens of the county are, at this time (1925), making a campaign for the purpose of raising a $300,000 fund for building additional structures and an endowment fund for the institution.



CHAPTER IV

IN THE CIVIL AND SPANISH AMERICAN WARS

The causes which led up to the Civil War, between the North and South, are too well known to all today, to dwell on the topic. In brief it may be stated that as a result more than four million slaves were set free and the question of "States Rights" forever well settled concerning enslaving any race of human beings on United States soil. This cost untold blood and treasure and Franklin county was not one whit behind her sister counties in furnishing her full quota of brave soldiers and raising its share of money to further on the cause. The following chapter will briefly note what each town within the county accomplished during those wonderful history-making years.

Beginning with the county seat town it is recorded that Greenfield sent to the service of the country about 500 men. Of these about 100 belonged in other counties, but 400 were citizens true and loyal and were quick to respond to the call of President Lincoln for men at various stages of the conflict. The sound of drum and fife was daily heard upon the streets. Armed men paraded the streets and highways week in and week out. It was indeed an eventful day in June, 1861, when Company E of the Tenth Massachusetts Regiment, under command of Captain Day, started to join the army at the front. The following notice was written of Captain Edwin E. Day, who commanded Company E: "Captain Edwin E. Day was born September 3, 1825, in Gill. He married and lived at Factory Village in Greenfield and was captain of a militia company when the Civil War broke out. He was the first man to enlist in Greenfield and was mustered into service June 21, 1861, as captain of Company E, Tenth Regiment. In the campaign on the Peninsula, at the first battle in which his regiment was engaged, on the last day of May, 1862, he was killed at the head of his company. He received three bullet wounds. The second was fatal. He was a wise, brave officer, and every man in his command loved him. He died with his full armor on, amid the din and roar of battle."

In all forty-three men lost their lives in that four-year war, who claimed Greenfield as their home. To the memory of these fallen heroes, not long after the war closed, the beautiful Scotch granite

monument was erected on the Common, surmounted by a bronze eagle cast in Munich. For beauty and protection a very neat iron fence was placed around the monument; the cost of both fence and monument was $10,000.

Deerfield—The Civil War monument at this place has for a portion of its inscription the names of the two hundred and eight soldiers from that town who risked their lives that freedom might obtain in this Republic.

Montague—This town furnished its quota of men and from the number twenty-four sacrified their young lives.

Orange—Thirty-eight lives were lost from the one hundred and forty-four who volunteered from the town, under various calls. In 1870, at Orange Center there was erected to their memory a handsome monument of Maine granite, rising to a height of forty feet, with proper inscriptions on its four faces.

Shelburne—In 1868 at a cost of $2,000 in the north part of Shelburne Falls village a handsome granite monument was erected and dedicated to the memory of citizens of Shelburne who lost their lives in the Rebellion, twenty-seven in all, and the names of the one hundred and two who enlisted from the town between 1861 and 1865.

Northfield—This town sent into the ranks of the Union army during the Civil War one hundred and forty-one soldiers, many of whom never returned to home and loved ones. In her soul-trying years the good people of this town gave much money and produce, as well as work in many lines in the interest of supporting the Union cause and caring for the soldiers' families left without support at home, while they fought on southern battle fields.

New Salem—This town furnished one hundred and three men to supply the quota required for enlistments and later recruits. Eight of this number were lost in battle.

Conway—This town furnished for the Civil War soldiers to the total of one hundred and five, twenty-one of whom never returned, but yielded up the supreme sacrifice for freedom's cause.

Sunderland—This town met her quotas well during the Civil War, as the official reports show she furnished forty men and thousands of dollars for relief causes and bounties. The spirit of

patriotism was high in this and adjoining towns of Franklin county.

Bernardston—From this town during the Rebellion there were forty-four soldiers sent to the defense of their country, at the various calls of President Lincoln. Five of these men were lost in battle or died of exposure.

Buckland—From this quarter there were sent forth to suppress the Rebellion in 1861-65 eighty-four men—the flower of the strong men of the place. Twelve of these soldiers lost their lives and most of them were buried in the far away Southland.

Hawley—During the years of the Rebellion furnished fifty-two men as her required quota, some of whom never returned but sacrificed their lives on the altar of their country.

Charlemont—Without murmer or discord this town sent forth her brave sons in defense of "Old Glory" to the number of seventy-seven. During those long never-to-be-forgotten years both men and women at home were busy at packing up and shipping fruits and other much needed supplies for the soldier-boys at the front—in tent and field, and in supplying the soldiers' families at home with such things as would sustain them until their husbands or fathers should return.

Whately—This town gave every possible aid to every call for troops and supplies in suppressing that unholy warfare, wherein brother was arrayed against brother and father against son. From the best accounts now at hand, it is believed that the number of soldiers sent from Whately was eighty-seven. Eleven of these men sacrificed their lives and never returned to home and fireside. Bounties were paid here and the total amount raised for war expenses was $21,678. Quite a number of the men from here died in Andersonville Prison Pen, in Georgia.

Leverett—This town provided soldiers for the Rebellion to the number of fifty-three, of whom six perished on Southern fields. In common with other Franklin communities this town raised many thousand dollars by taxation and subscription for the care of soldiers' families and for dainty supplies and bandages sent to the battle fronts and to hospitals of the far off South land.

Ashfield—Like their forefathers in Revolutionary times, those living in this town during Civil War days, manifested a spirit of

sublime patroitism. At the close of the war a handsome monument was erected to the memory of those who perished in the war for the Union. The town records show the following entry: "March 5, 1866—" Voted to raise $650 for the purpose of erecting a memorial to perpetuate the memory of those persons of this town whose lives have been sacrificed in the effort to sustain the government against the slave-holders' Rebellion."

Colerain—From this town went forth to the Union Army ranks between 1861 and 1865, eight-seven of the flower of the town. Many never returned, and many were wounded and later died as a result.

Leyden—This town sent her quota of soldiers into the Union cause freely and in large numbers considering its inhabitants. The official roster shows at least twenty-four names who served in different commands. In material aid such as was afforded by other towns, Leyden also gave money and supplies toward keeping soldier's families while they were doing duty in the South.

Shutesbury—The record in this town for service during the Civil War is one to be proud of. Twenty-four of the best citizens of the town went forth as volunteers to suppress the threats against the Union by hands who had vowed to destroy it. Those who remained at home gave of their time and means in support of those fighting in the field. The money paid for bounties was never begrudged, but given with a cheerful spirit.

Gill—The Adjutant General's reports show that during the War for the Union this town sent forty-eight men to increase the ranks of the "boys in blue" who fought on Southern battle fields.

Erving—The number of soldiers from this town totaled fifty-five. Of this number eleven lost their lives in service.

Rowe—As far back as Revolutionary times this town was noted for its military spirit and they supported a militia company. When the Rebellion came in 1861, the spirit was revived in Rowe. Thirty-three men enlisted and proved themselves soldiers true.

Warwick—Full of the fire of patriotism and on the side of the Union cause, this town sent forth from her strong young and middle-aged men, soldiers to the number of eighty-four. Out of this number twenty-six died while connected with the service of their country. These names were inscribed on a handsome monu-

ment erected in 1866 in the Fisk Cemetery at Warwick village. During the Rebellion Warwick raised for war purposes $17,827.37.

Wendell—The official roster of Union soldiers from this town shows that there were thirty-five men enrolled, enlisted, and served, and either died or were discharged.

Heath—This town furnished more than forty soldiers for the Union army. Of this number three sacrificed their lives on the altar of their country.

Monroe—The following served in the Union cause from Monroe: Alonzo Axtell, Eben Gifford, Moses Nichols, Isaac B. Stafford, Henry D. Thayer, Warren Tower, Henry Hicks, Allen Phelps, Nathaniel Whitcomb, Myron Whitcomb. Two died in service—Henry Hicks and Allen Phelps.

SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

This short but very decisive conflict, important in its issue between the United States and Spain in 1898 called for loyal, brave men from Franklin county which were furnished by the employment of State troops. On April 11, 1898 President William McKinley sent his message to Congress recommending armed intervention in Cuba. Then followed the call to arms. The Second Massachusetts Infantry, of which Company "L" came from Greenfield, at once tendered its service to the government, and on May 3, amid the farewells of fifteen hundred citizens who had gathered early in the morning, the Greenfield boys entrained. Of the seventy-eight men who enlisted as United States soldiers, one was killed at El Caney, and sixteen died of disease contracted in the service.

Roster of Company L, Second Regiment Massachusetts Infantry:—

Frederick E. Pierce,	Captain,	Greenfield.
Charles H. Field,	First Lieut.,	" (Killed)
Fayette B. Mason,	Second Lieut.,	"
Charles C. Class,	First Sergeant.	"
Alston G. Salisbury,	Q. M. Sergeant,	"
Thomas D. Murphy,	Sergeant,	"
Charles E. Chapin,	Sergeant,	"
Archie C. Hale,	Sergeant,	South Deerfield.
Don A. Aldrich,	Sergeant,	Greenfield.
Donald M. Lobdell,	Corporal,	"
Edward M. Slocumb,	Corporal,	"

Albert E. Denison,	Corporal,	Greenfield.
Albert W. Beckworth,	Corporal,	"
George M. Brooks,	Corporal,	Hartford, Connecticut.
Edward J. Class,	Corporal,	Greenfield.
Merton R. Dean,	Musician,	"
William H. Murphy,	Musician,	Turners Falls.
Henry E. Ariel,	Artificer,	Colerain.
Henry M. Stewart,	Wagoner,	Greenfield.
Andrew B. Anderson,	Private,	Greenfield.
Charles C. Arnold,	"	Millers Falls.
Gilbert C. Bangs,	"	Turners Falls
Harry J. Barnes,	"	Greenfield.
George E. Blackmer,	"	Riverside.
Frank J. Brassor,	"	Greenfield.
Frank M. Breslin,	"	Millers Falls.
Albert E. Brown,	"	Greenfield.
Frederick W. Brown,	"	Greenfield.
Peter J. Campbell,	"	Turners Falls.
Robert A. Cary,	"	Greenfield.
Frank W. Carpenter,	"	Shelburne
Earl D. Coates,	"	Greenfield.
James D. Cook,	"	Scranton, Pennsylvania.
Edward M. Cornell,	"	Greenfield.
Herbert H. Davis,	"	Deerfield.
Warren P. H. Davis,	"	Greenfield.
George H. De Revere,	"	Greenfield.
Henry H. De Verger,	"	Greenfield.
James M. Farll,	"	Chicago, Illinois.
Willis B. Fay,	"	Greenfield.
Fred F. Floury,	"	Montague.
Julius J. Forgette,	"	Greenfield.
Louis E. Freshour,	"	Greenfield.
Clark S. Frost,	"	Greenfield.
Peter C. Fuchs,	"	Greenfield.
Clayton D. Goland,	"	Turners Falls.
Henry C. Graves,	"	Greenfield.
Peter A. Greenia,	"	Conway.
Harry C. Hall,	"	Turners Falls.
William J. Kelliher,	"	Turners Falls.
William J. Kingston,	"	Greenfield.
Edward J. Lague,	"	Greenfield.

Joseph M. Lanois,	"	Riverside.
William H. Miller,	"	Greenfield.
Timothy J. Murphy,	"	Turners Falls.
Frank P. Norton,	"	Greenfield.
William O'Connell,	"	Turners Falls.
George H. Patnode,	"	Greenfield.
Walter C. Raymond,	"	East Deerfield.
Thomas Riley,	"	Greenfield.
Frederick C. Schiller,	"	Greenfield.
Charles A. Smead,	"	Greenfield.
Frank A. Smith,	"	Greenfield.
Ward W. Smith,	"	Greenfield.
Ralph J. Snow,	"	Greenfield.
Lovell S. Spaulding,	"	Greenfield.
Robert Stockbuger,	"	Greenfield.
Jeremiah J. Sullivan,	"	Turners Falls.
John Thyne, Jr.,	"	Turners Falls.
August H. Ungrich,	"	Turners Falls.
Richard A. Van Petersilge,	"	South Deerfield.
Harry A. Watson,	"	Greenfield
Frederick E. Williams,	"	Greenfield.
Charles P. Wilson,	"	Shelburne Falls
Harry A. Wise,	"	Turners Falls
Harry A. Woodard,	"	Greenfield.
Otto Zeigler,	"	Turners Falls

This county should be credited with at least one more soldier from this county—John J. Kennedy, of Greenfield, Mass., who enlisted in Company "I," Second Regiment Massachusetts Infantry, and was mustered into service at South Framingham, May 3, 1898. His name appears in the roster of that company in Northampton.

Second Lieutenant Daniel J. Moynihan, of Company "I" Second Regiment infantry, Massachusetts, who won the title of "Hero of El Caney" in the War with Spain, was a native of Sunderland, Franklin County, Massachusetts, born November 19, 1867, and moved to Northampton when twelve years of age. He became a member of Company "I" in January, 1889. He was promoted from corporal, 1890, to first sergeant, then to second lieutenant. After the Spanish-American War he returned, having been seriously wounded at the battle of El Caney. Later he served twenty years in the army, retiring with the rank of major. After a few years in Greenfield he located in Miami, Florida, where he now resides.

CHAPTER V

THE LAST HALF CENTURY

Through railway construction, including the longest mountain tunnel in America—the Hoosac—and other causes, the improvement in Franklin County in the last fifty years has indeed been vast and very substantial. What was known as the Connecticut River Railroad had for its first link that portion between Springfield and Northampton. A company styled the "Northampton and Springfield Railroad Corporation" was chartered March 1, 1842. The capital stock was limited to $500,000 by legislative act of 1844. In February, 1845, Henry W. Clapp, Ralph Williams, Henry W. Cushman, and others incorporated the "Greenfield and Northampton Railroad Company", with authority to construct a road between the above mentioned towns. The stock was limited to $500,000. These two corporations were consolidated on equal terms in July, 1845, and took the name of "The Connecticut River Railroad Company." The Northampton and Springfield Company changed its route to the one where the road now runs. The Connecticut River Company was authorized in April, 1846, to extend its road northward from Greenfield to the Vermont State line, and to increase its stock by an amount not to exceed $500,000.

The road was opened from Springfield to Cabotsville in February, 1845, and to Northampton December 13, of the same year. On August 17,1846, it was opened to South Deerfield, and on the 23d of November following to Greenfield. The branch from Chicopee to Chicopee Falls was completed September 8, the same year.

The earnings of the road from its opening to January, 1846, were $13,521; expenditures for same time, $5,519. The total receipts for 1846 were $58,246; expenses, $21,752. Receipts for 1848, $165,242, and the number of passengers carried was in round figures three hundred thousand; tons of freight such as general merchandise, 101,314.

The road was completed to the south of Vermont January 1, 1849, a distance of fifty-two miles from Springfield. The total cost of the railroad was $1,798,825.

The Hoosac Tunnel Line—By all means this is the most important line of railway passing through the northern portion of Massachusetts. The divisions or links making up this route from Bos-

ton to the Hudson river, at Troy, are the Fitchburg division from Boston to Greenfield, a distance of 106 miles; the Troy and Greenfield road, from Greenfield to North Adams, 37 miles including the great Hoosac Tunnel, and the Troy and Boston road, from North Adams to the Hudson river, 48 miles; making a total distance of 191 miles from tide-water to tide-water again. At the center of the tunnel under the mountain the altitude is over 800 feet above tide-water in Boston. The lines of this system traversing Franklin county, follow very nearly that of the valleys of Millers and the Deerfield rivers, from the eastern to the western extremities of this county; passing through the towns of Orange, Wendell, Erving, Montague, Deerfield, Greenfield, Shelburne, Conway, Buckland, Charlemont, and Rowe; thus giving fifty miles of trackage within the county.

As originally surveyed and built this road crossed Green river in what was a part of the town of Deerfield, three-fourths of a mile from Main Street business center of Greenfield which place was accommodated until 1876, by backing up the trains. Later very material changes were made and the road was laid as at present in the rear of north Main Street. This changed the grade from seventy to twenty-six feet per mile.

The Troy & Greenfield line was chartered in 1848, organized in 1849; ground was first broken on its construction January 8, 1851, under an appropriation of $25,000 made "for experiments on the tunnel." In 1854 the State appropriated aid to the amount of $2,-000,000. Work actually commenced on this tunnel in the summer of 1856 and continued until funds ran out in 1861. Nothing more was done until September, 1862, when the tunnel was transferred to the State of Massachusetts, this being when the tunnel had reached half way through the mountain. Work was pushed forward until 1868 when the State lost faith in the enterprise, but in December of that year Shanley & Co., of Montreal, contracted for its completion for the sum of $4,594,368, and whatever interest might accrue under the contract. This company completed the tunnel early in 1874. All told the work had continued through a period of eighteen years, at a total cost of $17,000,000. It should here be noted that the estimate for constructing this tunnel in the fifties was when it was planned to convey a canal instead of a railroad through the tunnel under the mountains. The total length of the tunnel is about four and three-fourths miles. It carries double tracks and is twenty-six feet high and the same distance in width.

In its building nearly two hundred men lost their lives by sundry accidents. The road was opened from Greenfield to the tunnel, August 17, 1868; the first construction train passed through the tunnel February 9, 1875, and the first passenger train April 9, of the same year. The famous tunnel lies wholly within Florida town, Berkshire county, but its eastern portal opens on the west bank of the Deerfield river, which divides the counties of Berkshire and Franklin.

It should here be stated that while the above is practically the outline history of the several railroad lines within this county, covering numerous original companies projected and built at various times, that all have finally been merged into the one system now known as the Boston and Maine Railroad Company. Its eastern terminal is Boston and its western Rotterdam Junction, New York.

Development of Franklin County—The total number of voters in Franklin county in 1875 was 8,516. The number of families was 7,856; dwellings, 6,877; unoccupied dwellings, 268; number of dwellings in Deerfield was 669, in Greenfield, 696.

The number of farms in the county in 1875 was 3,956, with a total acreage of 350,443; average number of acres to each farm was eighty-eight; total value of all farms, $11,352,503. The number of acres in market-gardens was 214¼, of the value of $12,448. Acres of cultivated lands, 80,000; uncultivated lands, 175,218 acres; of unimprovable lands, 20,517; of woodlands, 74,837. Total domestic and agricultural products of county—domestic, $810,792; agricultural, $2,594,000. Franklin county produced in 1875, 1,285,048 pounds of butter; of cheese, 64,000; maple sugar, 149,000 pounds, valued at $16,114; bushels of apples, 192,879; milk, in value, $170,000. Tons of hay produced, 61,000; bushels of corn produced in 1875, 155,000, valued at $146,000. Potatoes grown in the county, 256,000 bushels, one of three of the largest potato producing counties in Massachusetts. Amount of tobacco acreage, 1,217; number of pounds in 1875, 2,000,000. The number of bushels of wheat was 7,456. The total number of hired persons employed in agriculture was 3,806.

The total valuation of personal and real estate in the county fifty years ago was $16,000,987; total products, $8,720,000. Number of manufacturing establishments in 1875 was 282; capital invested, $4,128,000; value of goods produced, $4,987,000.

The census for 1875 gave this county as having ten public libraries with 16,000 books on the shelves.

The 1924 town directory of Greenfield gives the number of manufacturing establishments in the town as thirty; products annually, twelve million dollars. The chief industries are tap and dies, tools, leather goods, silver ware, rakes and printing and binding books.

The United States census reports for 1920 give the total number of manufacturing plants within the county as fifty-three; value of products per year $10,000,000; average number male wage-earners employed, 2,239; female wage-earners, 480. The county has now several immense hydro-electric power plants producing wonderful horse-power supplying many places within a radius of fifty or more miles.

The Franklin County Agricultural Society—The earliest "Farmers' Club" in the Connecticut Valley was at Sunderland, Franklin county in 1833 with twenty-three members. In 1859 the "Franklin Harvest Club" was organized at the Mansion House in Greenfield. The first officers were Thomas J. Field, of Northfield, president; Edward W. Stebbins, of Deerfield, vice-president; Hon. James S. Grinnell, secretary. Among the numerous articles of their constitution were these: "The active membership of this club shall never exceed twenty-two, and candidates shall only be admitted by a unanimous ballot after being proposed by a committee." Another provision was: "refreshments served at the meetings of the club shall be plain and unostentatious; and the use of ardent spirits, other than those of domestic manufacture, shall be prohibited at the meetings of the club."

For years this club had or has for its membership many of the most intelligent and prominent agriculturists of the valley, distributed through the three counties of Franklin, Hampshire and Hampden in Massachusetts, and the counties of Merrimack, in New Hampshire, and Hartford, Connecticut. Forty years ago it was written of this club that "no agricultural society in the State possesses more dignity, intelligence, and enterprise than the Franklin Harvest Club."

The total membership at one time considerably exceeded one hundred, representing stock raisers, breeders of special lines of neat cattle,—Durhams, Devons, Jerseys and Ayrshires, market gardeners and fruit-growers.

In 1845 there were more acres of corn grown in the three counties

of this valley than now, but the yield per acre has materially increased in Franklin county from thirty-two to thirty-seven and one half bushels.

Coming to the organization of the county agricultural society it may be stated that growing out of a meeting held in Greenfield in October, 1849, what was known as the Franklin County Agricultural Society was formed. It was incorporated by the legislature in the winter of 1849-50. The first formal meeting of the society was held for the election of officers, at Greenfield June 13, 1850, when these were elected: President, Henry W. Clapp, of Greenfield; secretary, W. T. Davis, of Greenfield; treasurer, A. G. Hammond. The first annual cattle show and fair was held on September 25, 1850, and was highly successful. The annual meeting was held January 7, 1851, when Henry W. Cushman was elected president. The total receipts for 1850, as reported by the officers, amounted to $1,809.54. With the coming of the brisk autumnal days these fairs have been held to the present. Annually, the State of Massachusetts aided this society by an appropriation of $600.

The first purchase for grounds for permanent occupation was made in 1860, when five acres of land were bought of Honorable Almon Brainard, for $2,000. Five acres were later added costing $3,000. These grounds were situated on a Green river meadow, near the middle turnpike bridge, and through small answered fairly for a number of years. A trotting track was provided a third of a mile in length, open seats and cattle-pens were built and a few cheap buildings were erected; but it was later found that more extensive grounds and improvements were necessary to the success of the society. In 1876 the property was sold at auction for $7,200 and later it was purchased by the railroad company and others. Immediately the society purchased thirty-three acres of finely situated land in what is known as "Petty's Plain," a half mile southwest of the railway station, on the southwest side of Green River. This land cost $2,571. The land had upon it a charming natural grove of about five acres. The plot was provided with water from the Greenfield water works, and also one of the best half-mile race-tracks in the State was made. Up to 1880 there had been expended about $10,000. In 1851 the total membership of the society was 220 and in 1880 it exceeded 2,500 showing the interest manifested in the work of agriculture and stock-raising in this section of the State. The books of the society in 1879 show that the indebtedness was then $1,782.

The 1924 premium list shows a fine array of exhibits and premiums awarded for fine stock, poultry, fruits, field crops, domestic productions for the household, etc. The attendance was large and all seemed interested throughout the fair. The heads of the departments were as follows: Superintendent of cattle and sheep, A. C. Warner; of horses, C. O. Loomis; of swine, J. H. Putnam; of poultry, Solon H. Stone; of hall, Whitman Wells; of grounds, L. D. Potter; of juvenile department; Paul Alger; of midway, J. B. Kennedy; of races, Roger Rourke.

The present (1925) officers of the Agricultural Society are: John W. Haigis, president; John H. Murphy, secretary; William C. Conant, treasurer.

The agricultural organizations in Franklin county today are the County Agricultural Society above mentioned at length; the Franklin Improvement League organized August 14, 1914 and changed to the Franklin County Farm Bureau the same year. It was reorganized in 1918, but in March, 1921, the name was changed to the "Franklin County Extension Service in Agriculture and Home Making". It is supported by public funds from county, state and federal government and town appropriations.

Secondly, comes the Deerfield Valley Agricultural Society which holds its notable exhibitions and fairs at Charlemont.

Third comes the Heath Agricultural Society which holds its annual reunion and home day with speakers and a parade with a friendly competition in the exhibits of cattle, crops and home produce. Without any mid-way or fakirs of any kind, this event in 1924 drew about nine hundred friends together.

There are also two flourishing farm clubs within this county—the Buckland and the East Charlemont Farmers' Club. There are also five cooperative exchanges in the county, the Ashfield, Greenfield, Heath, Northfield and the Colerain Fruit Growers' Association and the Orange Farmers' Association, practically cover the entire county, and enable the farmers to do buying co-operatively. These six exchanges did a combined business of $200,000 in 1922.

Other associations are the New England Poultry Association, the Franklin County Farm Loan Association, the Connecticut Valley Tobacco-Growers' Association, controlling 22,000 acres of tobacco, or eighty per cent of the entire crop of the famous valley. This was formed in 1922.

The county affords trade co-operative creameries—at Ashfield, Shelburne and Northfield.

Agriculture in Franklin county is in no wise deteriorating. It was never more wide awake to its possibilities.

In the matter of special crops the reader's attention is called to the 2,000 acres of tobacco, with about an annual value of $1,000,000. This is the cigar type of tobacco, with which one is familiar if a user of "the weed." Most all tobacco growers sign up a five-year co-operative contract. Another big crop is the onion so naturally grown in this county. Many of these onions are grown from the seed, and are grown on shares with the Polish people. Onion "sets" commonly give a crop valued at $1,000 per acre.

Farming pursuits and manufacturing industries always go hand in hand. The soil originally gives mankind its subsistence. In early years the New Englander was an agriculturist, and later turned to factories and let agriculture, to some extent, go down. Then the great West produced cheap foodstuffs and supplied the Eastern sea-board, after which the factory and shops begun to move West to be nearer the supply of raw material and food. Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago and St. Louis all took a large number of industries away from New England. This point has been well referred to by Dr. A. W. Gilbert, Commissioner of Agriculture of Massachusetts not long since, on the "Vital Importance of New England Agriculture." From this article we are permitted to take extracts for this chapter.

The new free or low priced lands of the West with a then comparatively low freight rate landed food in New England at prices that could not be met by the New England producer. Wheat growing stopped. The production of the other cereals waned. Beef production ceased. The sheep industry began to lag and finally approached the vanishing point. Dairying changed to the production of liquid milk and cream, for it could not compete with Western-produced butter and cheese.

This is the situation today: Of the great staple food products the amount produced in Massachusetts would feed her consumers about as follows:—Hogs, one week; sheep, one day; poultry and poultry products, six to ten weeks; butter—not enough produced to be quoted; beef enough for one or two meals; vegetables, eight to twelve weeks; potatoes, three to six weeks.

New England maintained its manufacturing supremacy for a century almost without rivals. It perhaps still is the leading manufacturing section in cloth and shoes. When the great automobile and similar industries began to develop they looked for a location

nearer the food production areas. And the New England manufacturer who was formerly concerned with only the problems of organization and transportation is now finding that agricultural production is of great importance to him. The so-called industries now view with great concern those changes and stoppages in agriculture, This concern is not one of sentiment. They want to see agriculture return to its own, not for the prime object of making life easier and pleasanter on the farm and in the farm home, but they want cheaper food in the manufacturing cities. They are seeing that cheap food is the one thing that will hold the present industries, perhaps bring back some of the lost ones, and make possible the establishment of new lines of manufacture. For the first time in New England's history, the farmer and the banker meet on common ground. The industrial cities of the West and South which are competing with us have gained in population much faster than we have. One of the reasons for this is not far to see. Thirty-eight per cent of the cost of living is spent for food. Food is much cheaper there than here. It is necessary for our manufacturers to pay a higher wage to offset the higher cost of living. Therefore, the problem of raising food becomes not only a farmers' problem but even more an industrial problem.

One-quarter of the people of the United States live within 250 miles of Boston. It goes without saying that Massachusetts or New England will never become self-supporting. The evolution just mentioned has gone on until we now import into New England each year a half billion dollars worth of food. That is an enormous sum—$500,000,000 going out of New England each year for food.

Our great opportunity lies in the raising of specialties which we are best adopted to raise,—Milk, poultry products, apples, onions, market garden products, cranberries, etc. We may even raise a surplus of such products for export to other states.

The original industry of this country was, of course, agriculture which continued to flourish for more than a century. Out of a total area of 446,680 acres, about 61 per cent is in farms, 91 per cent of which are operated by the owners. In 1920 the value of crops was given as $5,981,294, or eleven per cent of the total of the entire State of Massachusetts. Since the organization of the Franklin County Extension Service greater attention has been paid to improved livestock, and many other things.

By reference to old census statistics it is discovered that the Colonial census of 1776 gave this county a population of 10,294; the

United States census in 1790, 21,743; 1800, 26,301; 1810, 27,421; 1820, 29,418; 1830, 29,630; 1840, 28,812; 1850, 30,870; 1860, 31,434; 1870, 32,635.

Further statistics show the county had personal property valued at $3,849,795 in 1875; also real estate valued at $12,729,000; total value, $16,579,435.

County Boundaries—Franklin county is bounded on the north by the States of Vermont and New Hampshire, on the east by the county of Worcester, on the south by the county of Hampshire, and on the west by the county of Berkshire. When first erected Franklin county contained but twenty-two civil towns. Four have been added since, as elsewhere stated. The last change was the addition of the town of Erving April 17, 1838. The county contains an area of 697 square miles.

Franklin County Postoffices—The United States Postal Guide for 1922 gave the following as the list of postoffices within Greenfield county at that date:

Ashfield
Bardwells
Bernardston
Buckland
Charlemont
Colerain
Conway
Deerfield
East Deerfield
East Northfield
East Whately
Erving
Farley
Greenfield
Griswoldville
Hawley
Heath
Hillsborough
Lake Pleasant
Leverett
Leyden
Locks Village
Lyonsville
Millers Falls
Millington
Monroe Bridge
Montague
Montague City
Moore's Corner
Mount Hermon
New Salem
Northfield
Northfield Farms
North Leverett
North Orange
Orange
Rowe
Shattucksville
Shelburne Falls
Shutesbury
South Ashfield
South Deerfield
South Vernon
Sunderland
Tully
Turners Falls
Warwick
Wendell
Wendell Depot
West Hawley
Whatley
Zoar

Population of the County—The United States census returns for 1920 gave the following statistics concerning the population of Franklin county: Total of county was 49,361; total number of males, 24,998; females, 24,363; Negro population, 116. By towns

the population was in the periods of 1900, 1910 and 1920 as follows:

	1900	1910	1920
Ashfield,	955	959	869
Bernardston,	792	741	769
Buckland,	1,446	1,537	1,433
Charlemont,	1,094	1,001	808
Colerain,	1,749	1,741	1,607
Conway,	1,458	1,230	961
Deerfield,	1,969	2,209	2,803
Erving,	973	1,148	1,295
Gill,	1,015	942	879
Greenfield,	7,927	10,427	15,462
Hawley,	429	424	390
Heath,	441	346	325
Leverett,	744	728	695
Leyden,	379	363	330
Monroe,	305	246	173
Montague,	6,150	6,886	7,675
New Salem,	807	639	512
Northfield,	1,966	1,642	1,775
Orange,	5,520	5,530	5,393
Rowe,	549	548	333
Shelburne,	1,508	1,598	1,436
Shutesbury,	382	387	242
Sunderland,	771	980	1,289
Warwick,	327	581	619
Wendell,	492	401	346
Whately,	769	960	1,234
Totals	41,209	43,600	49,361

Number native whites, in 1920, 41,093; number of foreign born, white, 8,131; Negroes, 116; per cent of native white eighty-three and two tenths; per cent of foreign born, sixteen and five-tenths; Negro per cent, 0.2. Total number homes owned in county, 12,023; homes rented, 5,274.

CHAPTER VI

GREENFIELD

The shire town of Franklin county is Greenfield situated west of the Connecticut river. It is bounded on the north by Bernardston and Leyden, on the west by Shelburne, on the south by Deerfield and on the east by the Connecticut river and the town of Gill. Its population, when the 1920 census was taken, 49,361.

Before entering into the history as man has had to do with its development, a brief mention should be made in this connection as to its natural features, its streams and general topography:

The Deerfield river flows from the west part of Franklin county and empties into the Connecticut river in Greenfield. A little stream called Fall river flows through the northeast part of the town into the Connecticut river, opposite Turners Falls. These streams receive several brooks that flow into them, so that the town is well watered. Generally speaking, the surface is quite even and level, except for a trap-rock ridge extending parallel to the Connecticut river which rises abruptly at some points to an elevation of nearly two hundred feet above the plain on the west side. This ridge is known as "Rocky Mountain." The highest point near the center, is known as "Poet's Seat." This commands a charming view in all directions. The sprightly, clean, enterprising town of Greenfield is at the West, half-hidden by the trees, and the rich valley of Green river beyond the Shelburne Hills; Leyden and Bernardston Hills, at the north; to the south one sees the ever interesting and famous broad Deerfield meadows, while Deerfield river threads itself in and out among the hills and trees. Next turning to the east, one sees near at hand, though two hundred feet below him, the broad stream of the majestic Connecticut, dashing over rock cascades. The village of Montague City and Turners Falls make up a part of a wonderful landscape scene, Mount Toby, and Mount Grace as well as the hoary head of Monadnock that rears its crest sublime. Thousands of tourists and also thousands of home-folk visit this elevation—Poet's Seat—annually. The town contains about 350 acres of unimproved land which may never be cultivated, while over 5,000 acres of the domain might be utilized to good advantage. Forty years ago there was woodland amounting to nearly 2,000 acres, while over 3,500 acres were under crops.

The 1875 Federal census noted its production of butter at 50,000 pounds; yearly there was milk produced, 63,000 gallons; tobacco grown, 98,000 pounds, valued at $19,000.

Early History—Up to 1753 Greenfield and Deerfield were identified as one. In 1673 a new grant of land was made to Deerfield by the General Court, so that the original 8,000 acres should make a township seven miles square. In 1665, Major Pynchon, of Springfield, had been engaged to survey the land and fix the boundaries. One of the conditions of this new grant was that "provided that an able orthodox minister be settled among them within three years, and that a farm of 250 acres be laid out for the country's use." This grant includes the towns of Greenfield, Gill, and a portion of Shelburne.

The record shows that the first of any land granted to any person within the present limits of Greenfield was in 1686—as a "tract of twenty acres to Mr. Nathaniel Brooks, at Green River." Beyond much doubt he was the original settler, and tradition supports the belief that his dwelling was located on the west side of the road to Cheapside. The well existing not many years ago, was probably the first sunk in the town. John and Edward Allyn and Joseph Robert Goddard each were granted twenty acres, on condition of their paying the taxes thereon. It is not in evidence that these tracts were ever actually taken.

From the writings of that reliable historian, Rev. Dr. J. F. Moors, the following was about the chain of settlement:

> In 1687 the land on west Main street was taken up. Beginning on the south side, the first lot was taken by Ebenezer Wells. The house known later as the "Coombs house" was the oldest in the village and later styled the "Wells house." The lot remained for several generations in the family of the original proprietor. The second lot east was taken by David Hoyt of Deerfield who did not become a resident; the third and fourth lots by William Brooks, of whom I can learn nothing; the fifth by Edward Allyn. His lot came up to "Arms' corner." His house probably stood where Mr. Hollister later lived. He died December, 1756, aged sixty-nine and was buried in the old cemetery near the Osterhout house. The stone that marks his grave is the oldest I find in this burying place in the town." This old cemetery occupied lands on Miles street to the north of the present railroad station, the topography in that section having been materially changed so that the passerby would never think of a burying ground having once been located there.
>
> On the north side of Main Street—that on which Major Keith now lives—was taken by Samuel Smead. The next is called on the old records "The Mill Lot," why so called is unknown. Then came Josiah and Robert God-

dard's lots. They did not become residents. Then John Severance, whose descendants have held the place till recently (1885). Then the lots of Jeremiah Hall and John Allen. The eastern boundary of these lots I do not know.

In May, 1723, at a meeting of the proprietors in Deerfield, it was voted "to lay out to the proprietors a tract of land lying upon 'Green River' bounded north upon the "Country Farms" west by the ridge of hills west of Green River, the first lot to begin at the north end of said plat.

The proprietors drew lots for the land, and Judah Wright, of Deerfield, drew the first lot.

April 18, 1753, the people living in "Green River district" having ten years before decided to be set off into a town, now held their first meeting to determine where the church should be located and other important matters adjusted. This was only a temporary meeting and the regular legal meeting was held July 3, 1753, Benjamin Hastings being selected moderator. One writer, in looking back over the years of civil and local conflict, says: "Happy town meeting! Not one word about taxes, nor roads, nor schools, which so vex the spirit of the modern citizen; and offices enough to go round, giving each citizen at least one. It is not easy to see the need of a treasurer; but if there was no treasury, there were no debts. This meeting as well subsequent meetings were held at the house of James Corse, which stood where later stood the Leavitt House, to the east of the Mansion House."

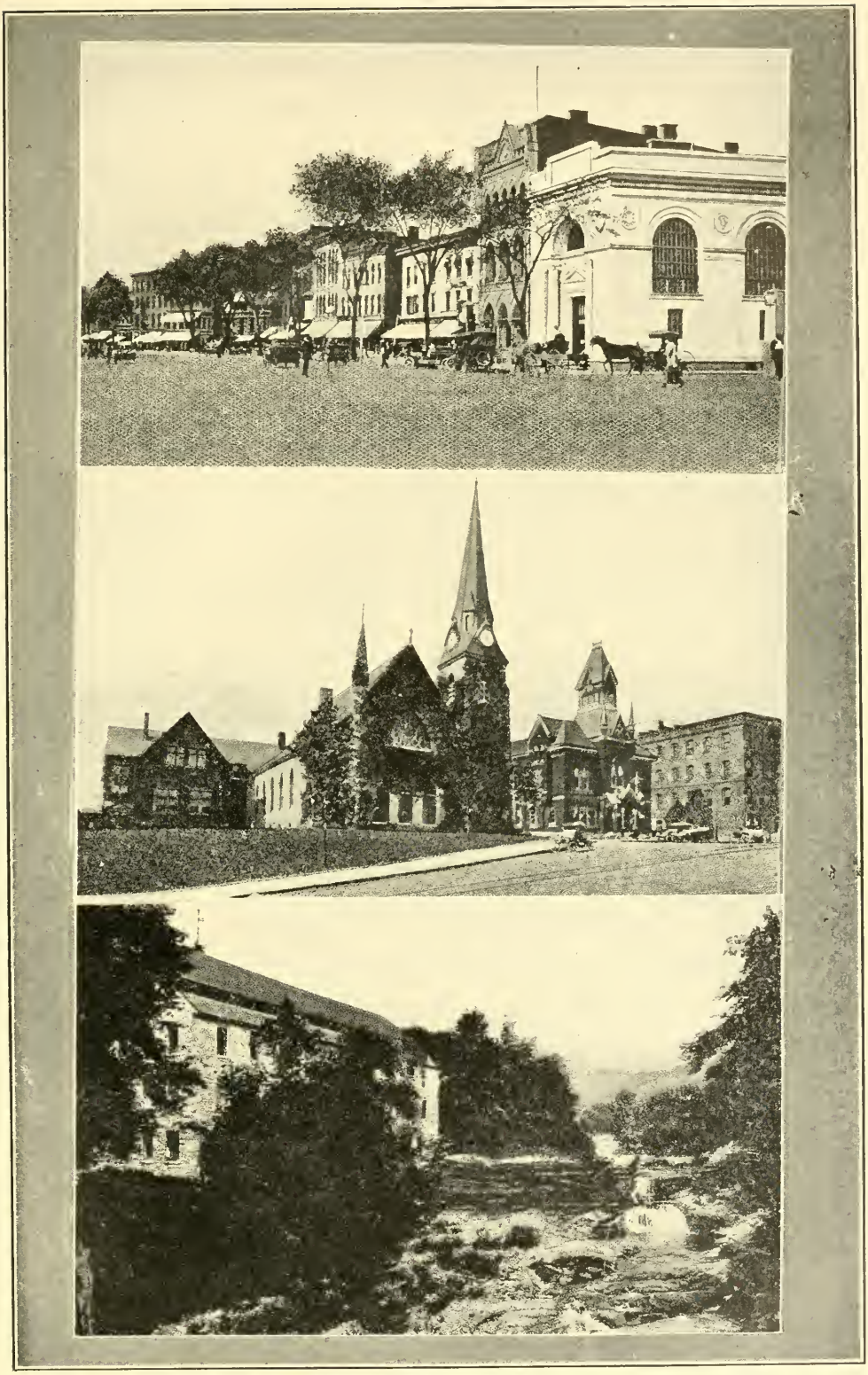
Our forefathers lived and had their being among scenes of war and bloodshed. They endured all the hardships of frontier life, knowing that a savage foe, inspired by a rival nation, hostile in race, language and religion, was lurking in the surrounding forests.

Indian Warfare—This town did not have a great amount of trouble. In 1676 during King Philip's war, the soldiers under Captain Turner, who assaulted the Indians at what is known as Turners Falls, came up on the west side of the Green river and crossed over near what was later styled Nash's Mill, then turned east through the timber, following an Indian trail upon the northern edge of a swamp till they reached the level ground northwest of the Factory village. There they dismounted and left the horses under a small guard while the men carefully wended their way into a hollow and finally forded the river. One writer on this affair says: "The white soldiers were completely successful in destroying the Indian camp. They returned to the place where they had left their horses to commence a triumphant march homeward. Just then an unaccountable panic seized upon the men, and the victory of the morning became a stampede for personal safety. The tradition is that a party of soldiers were lost in the woods and swamps, were taken prisoners, and were burned to death." To show the intense spirit of religious bigotry which prompted the acts of many

of the pioneers in this section, as well as every place in New England at that date, the following story concerning the above named captain, William Turner, is told as well authenticated by record:

Captain Turner, who commanded the English forces, was a Boston man, a tailor by trade, but one who left behind him an honorable record. An early historian, Rev. Dr. J. F. Moors, gives the narrative as follows. "He had been prominent in the controversy respecting Baptism which had agitated the Massachusetts colony a few years before. He came from Dartmouth, England, having been a regular in the Baptist order before he came to this country. The magistrates, with the mistaken idea that they could annihilate obnoxious opinions by severe measures against the holders of those opinions, proceeded in October, 1665, to disfranchise five persons who held the obnoxious doctrine of baptism by immersion; of these, William Turner was one. Shortly after this, we find him in prison for his heretical opinions. How long he remained in prison we cannot say; but he seems to have been active in maintaining worship after the Baptist form from the spring of 1668. A public dispute was held in the meeting-house of the First Church, in Boston, between six of the ministers of that region and a company of Baptists. The dispute lasted two days, and strange to say, came to nothing. The Baptists would not be converted to the doctrines of their opponents, who being the stronger party, proceeded to sentence them to banishment from the colony, and declared them liable to imprisonment if they returned. The sentence of banishment is a curiosity. I here give only the substance: "Whereas, the council did appoint a meeting of divers elders, and whereas, Thomas Gould, William Turner (and others), obstinate and turbulent Ana-Baptists, did assert their former practice before these elders, to the great grief and offense of the godly Orthodox—to the disturbance and destruction of the churches—this council do judge it necessary that they be removed to some other part of the country, and do accordingly order said Gould, Turner, etc., to remove themselves out of this jurisdiction." Among those on whom sentence was passed was William Turner. But so strong was the remonstrance against such oppressive proceedings that the sentence was never carried into execution. This was the end of the controversy with the Baptists."

This same man Captain Turner, the tailor, appears in 1676, as leading eighty-nine foot-soldiers from Marlboro to Northampton, and was soon in command of the troops at Hadley. He was denied



GREENFIELD

MAIN STREET—SECOND CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AND COURT HOUSE—OLD STONE MILL

a commission on account of his being so radical a Baptist. He fought bravely, however, and was shot in the thigh while engaged against the enemy and thus lost his life. He was killed near Nash's Mills, Turner Square, near Green River.

In 1754, the year following the incorporation of the town, at a town meeting, it was voted to picket three houses in this district forthwith. The houses selected were those belonging to Joshua Wells, James Corse and Shubael Atherton. The Corse house stood where the Leavitt house later stood, next east of the Mansion House on Main Street. These picket houses were surrounded by a strong fence of timber, set in the ground quite close together, each one sharpened at the top, eight or nine feet above the ground. No Indian could get through, nor over, these fences without aid. To those houses the people could fly in seasons of danger, and take refuge when they feared an attack from a merciless foe. Around these three houses the inhabitants gathered. Their existence tells a pathetic tale of danger and anxiety on the part of the people. The end of such dangers came when peace was declared in 1763. Main Street was laid out in its present shape in 1749.

The records of but few interesting accounts connected with the Revolution are today found among the archives of Greenfield. The payrolls at Boston show that the militia here were active and that the people furnished many supplies from time to time. The expedients of drafts and bounties were resorted to as a matter of necessity. The matter of furnishing beef for the army proved to be a serious affair. Not less than ten town meetings were held in this town in 1781. The records here and at Boston show the officers who commanded companies in the Revolutionary War from the town of Greenfield to have been Agrippa Wells, Timothy Childs and Isaac Newton. All of these men have biographical sketches in the early county histories, all too long to here reproduce. Prominent men from this town in those long ago years, were inclusive of the three just named above, and also Benjamin Hastings, the first and only deacon of the church for many years; Aaron Denio, a French-Canadian who conducted a tavern in the village many years and was a famous story teller; David Smead was the first to be appointed as justice of the peace. The Smeads held many important offices in both county and commonwealth; the Bascoms, the first of whom we have any specific knowledge was Deacon Moses Bascom, who was the father of nineteen children.

Another pioneer of note was James Corse. He was an early trapper and great hunter; he lived to be more than eighty years of age, dying in 1783. The Stone, Ripley and Marsh families each deserve mention for the important part they took in the development of Greenfield and surrounding territory. · Men of more than passing note include such characters as Governor William Burritt Washburn, for many years connected with the Bank of Greenfield, now the First National; he was elected Governor of Massachusetts in 1870, after having served as Congressman several terms; was re-elected Governor and later became U. S. Senator, succeeding the Hon. Charles Sumner, deceased. He was prominent in Congregational church work in Greenfield, gave the Greenfield Library Association a fine brick building on East Main Street, besides making many contributions of talent and means to his own county.

Henry W. Clapp, born in Springfield in 1798, came to Greenfield to reside in 1835 and filled many important positions; was president of the Greenfield Bank, of the Franklin Savings Institution, the Connecticut Railroad Co., the Franklin County Agricultural Society, Greenfield Gas Co., the Green River Cemetery Association and the Library Association. He died in 1869 after a well spent career.

Educational Interests; Public and Private Schools—Exceptional high standards and great interest was taken in school matters in the early policies of the Massachusetts Colony. They desired all children, regardless of their standing, parentage or wealth, to become well educated at least in all the lower branches then taught, and they wanted the public taxed for such schooling. As early as 1744, Deerfield made an appropriation for a school at Green River, and in 1749 the sum of thirty shillings a week was granted to the "school-dame" (teacher) at Green River for her compensation. This was in paper scrip and only actually worth one-tenth of the amount named on its face, the depreciation arising from the disastrous expedition directed against Quebec. In 1756 the town voted to expend means enough to hire a teacher from January to March. This was to be a man teacher, while the teacher from April to August was to be a woman. In 1758 the selectmen were to provide for a schoolhouse and also a school dame to teach. In 1763 it was ordered that there be a school the year round and in 1767 it was ordered that there be seven school districts—one on the Street, three in the meadows, one by Noah Allen's, one in the northeast corner, and one at Ens. Childs, at the falls. The one

master was to move to each district, according to the proportion; and there was to be a school dame the other six months, and she to keep school in the several districts according to the proportion. Again in 1774 it was voted to divide the district into *Squadrons* for the best advantage to the pupils. It was in 1790 that School Treasurer Solomon Smead of the board of selectmen made a report of the several schools as follows: South school (Street), 60; Meeting-House (Four Corners), 45; Mill Brook (Nash's), 43; Ariel Hinsdale (North Meadow), 40; Country Farms, 23; Long Plain, 69; Fall Brook (Factory), 12; Northeast (Gill), 173; total, 405—the money for each scholar, 4s, 4d., making one hundred pounds Sterling.

In a history of this county compiled forty years and more ago, we find the following concerning the schools here in the eighteenth and a portion of the nineteenth century: "I am told by one whose memory goes back to the last century that in those schools there was no arrangement of pupils into classes. One by one, the older scholars would rise in their seats and say, "Please sir may I read?" And if the teacher could attend to him, he read such a piece as he had selected out of any book he chose. Another would say, "Please sir show me how to do this sum;" another, "Please sir set me a copy." When the teacher could find time he would call the little ones to him one by one, and initiate them into the profound mysteries of A, B, C. No blackboard, no apparatus was provide and very few text-books, but no lack of ferrule and rod!

The schoolhouse of those days was a rude, unpainted building, very often of logs and containing a single room, at one end a huge fire-place on which the great stick of green wood dug out of the snow, burned slowly and fiercely when once fairly kindled, which was often not accomplished till the school-day was well nigh over. In the meantime the urchins and big boys and girls sat shivering on benches made of slabs with sticks in for legs.

From the first Greenfield has taken a great interest in her public schools, and had been liberal in her appropriations for their support. Under the old district system great difficulty was experienced in dividing the school money among the various districts. Different plans prevailed from year to year.

High Schools—In 1853 a high school was established, and was kept one-half year in the village and the other half in the north parish. The first teacher was Luther B. Lincoln, A. M. (Harvard University). The first high school house was built on Chapman Street in 1857 and in 1872, a new building was provided on Pleasant

Street. Now the pride of the place is the recently occupied new High School Building on Federal Street which was built at a cost of $700,000, including the grounds and furnishings.

In 1876 the State of Massachusetts attempted to show at the Centennial Exposition what it was doing for public education and the results attained, not only in cities, but in a country town which was too remote from any city to be influenced by it, and Greenfield was selected to make an exhibit, and did so by sending sixteen volumes of work done by pupils of all grades in all her schools, with photographs of all her school houses. For this exhibit a bronze medal was awarded to the town.

Private Schools—Greenfield has had her share of private schools in the long ago years. These included The Fallenberg Academy incorporated in 1832 as a manual-labor school. A private school for young ladies was established in 1828 in the old Coleman house; this closed its doors in 1845. On Federal Street there was another school for young ladies kept by the Misses Stone. In 1868 "Prospect Hill School For Young Ladies" was established and incorporated, with Miss Lois R. Wright as principal. With the progress made in the high schools of Massachusetts many private institutions soon went down for lack of support.

With the passing of decades all things have changed for the better and more practical methods have obtained. The annual report of the schools of Greenfield, issued in 1924, is numbered "One Hundred and Seventy-second Year." This reports gives facts as follows: Total number of graded schools, 22; the names of the schools are desigated as follows: High, Pleasant Street, Portable-Group, Davis Street, School Street, Portable-Federal, Federal Street, Chapman Street, Pierce Street, Main Street, Green River, Conway Street, Four Corners, Newton, Abercrombie, North Parish, Districts Nos. 3-4-7-8-9 and Special Class.

During 1924 the enrollment in these schools was 1,621 boys; 1,610 girls, making a total of 3,231 pupils. The average membership was 3,042; average attendance, 2,875. The following had charge of the school interests last year: Superintendent—Winthrop P. Abbott, Dartmouth College; Clerk to superintendent—Eleanor Clough; Attendance officer—Colin F. McLellan; Medical Inspector—Dr. J. A. Mather; School Nurse—Frances M. Brady; Dental Clinic—Dr. Harold M. Lamb, Elizabeth Hawks, assistant.

It is not the object of the writer to mention in detail the large number of schools of the town of Greenfield, but the splendid High

School must needs have some mention, for great interest has come to center around this institution of learning. This building was occupied for school purposes September 8, 1924, although it had been used for graduation exercises the June before. The cafeteria or lunch room is an innovation in the schools of Greenfield but has long been needed and is proving to be just what was desired. The prices are reasonable and grumblers are few. Every day a hot soup is served at five cents; sandwiches, five cents; rolls, three cents; ice cream two or three times each week, ten cents; fruit five cents; puddings, five cents; milk or cocoa, five cents daily. Ample time is allowed for eating and a handy self-serving plan obtains.

The salary paid teachers (the total number of whom is one hundred and twenty-four) was in 1924, from $950, to the salary of the Superintendent which is $4,100 per year.

Early and Present-day Churches—One account of the earliest church says:

Rev. Mr. Ashley, of Deerfield, and Rev. Abercrombie, of Pelham, were invited to assist in the work of the day, and to give their advice for some meet person to settle in the work of the ministry. The following month a call was extended to Rev. Edward Billings. A church was organized in March, 1754, and Mr. Billings was ordained at Belchertown. Twelve men became the first members of the "First Church of Chirst," their names being as follows: John Allen, Edward Allen, Joshua Wells, Daniel Graves, Benjamin Hastings, Jonathan Smead, Aaron Denio, Samuel Munn, John Cochrane, Thomas Nims, Daniel Nash and William Mitchell.

That was a time of great theological strife in the American church life. There was much bitterness engendered. The power of that giant theologian, Jonathan Edwards, was felt to a wonderful extent in this locality. The members of the first church who assembled in James Corse's best room, were deeply versed in the mysteries of free-will and foreordination— it was Calvinism and Armenian doctrine as one would say today.

Should we not like to get a glimpse at those sober, sedate, earnest men and women gathering together Sunday morning for religious worship, the men carrying their trusty rifles or muskets to defend themselves against the savages, who might assail them at any moment? There were no fair-weather Christians in that little assembly. Nothing can be learned of the old house (probably logs) in which they met to worship God, but mention should here be made of a wonderful old, large apple tree that stood in the northeast corner of the garden. It was about 1859 that the venerable tree yielded to the infirmities of age. It is believed that at the time of its death it was about one hundred years old. It started about the time the town was incorporated. At a foot above the ground it measured eighteen feet in circumference and six feet above the surface, the stem divided into three branch-

es, one of which was nine feet in circumference and sixty feet high. One year this tree bore one hundred and forty bushels of apples. This story was told on the authority of Deacon C. J. C. Ingersoll, who lived in the Leavitt house.

In 1760 it was voted "to build a meeting-house this year, forty-five feet long and thirty-five feet wide." The size was changed, however, to forty by fifty feet. The work dragged heavily for it was not until 1769 that it was far enough finished to be occupied. The affairs of the parish were regulated in town meetings. At one town meeting it was voted that the intermission should be half an hour. Rev. Roger Newton was the settled pastor of this church from 1761 to 1816.

The Second Congregational church was formed in 1817, as on account of the worn and ugly condition of the first church structure it had been needed for a number of years; also the distance was too far from where most of the members resided.

St. James Episcopal Church was organized in 1812 and their first edifice was constructed four years later. Their second edifice was built in 1848-49. Rev. Titus Strong, D. D., became rector in 1815.

The Third church established was of the Unitarian faith and was organized in 1825. The first pastor was Rev. Winthrop Bailey. This organization went down and was re-organized in 1860, with Rev. J. F. Moors as pastor.

The Baptist church was formed in February, 1852, and a church building erected in 1856. The first pastor was Rev. J. H. Seaver.

The Methodist Episcopal church was organized in 1835 with seventy-five members. A small edifice was erected at the eastern part of Main Street.

The Roman Catholic church was later in occupying this field. It was built in 1868 on Main Street. Forty years ago the above comprised the regular church organizations in Greenfield, but today the number is much greater.

The present churches of Greenfield (1925) are as follows: All-Souls' Unitarian Church; Church of Holy Trinity (Roman Catholic); First Baptist Church; First Church of Christ—Scientist; First Congregational Church; First Methodist Episcopal Church; German Lutheran Church; Sacred Heart, (Polish Roman Catholic); Second Congregational Church; St. James Episcopal Church; St. Stephens African Methodist Episcopal Church and Westside Community Church (Congregational).

Secret Societies, Lodges, Etc.—There are numerous secret and semi-secret, as well as benevolent societies in Greenfield, the history of which would require a volume of itself. For the purpose at hand it will suffice to say that the oldest secret orders, strictly speaking include the Masonic, Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias, while among the many benevolent societies are the Elks (B. P. O. E.), the Order of Moose, Red Men, and others. The Knights of Columbus (Catholic Order) have a strong Lodge.

Republican Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, was organized January 28, 1795. The lodge languished in 1821 and the order moved its seat to the town of Gill, where later its charter was surrendered. In December, 1851, after the anti-Masonic excitement had passed, the Lodge was revived and the old charter was renewed. Franklin Arch Chapter was organized January 11, 1818. Titus Strong Council was organized December 9, 1856. Connecticut Valley Commandery was organized October 30, 1867. The Masonic Order has grown with the town and country in general, and is today in a most flourishing condition. Property has been purchased on the corner of Church and Franklin streets for a Home to take the place of the present quarters and it may be that a new building entirely for lodge purposes will be erected on Franklin Street. Blue Lodge, Royal Arch Masons, Council of Royal and Select Masons, Knights Templar Commandery and others, as well as Eastern Star Lodge are here represented.

Odd Fellowship—This is the next oldest order among the fraternal societies in America and a local body thereof was first organized in this town May 6, 1845. In 1855 its charter was surrendered, but the Lodge was re-instituted November 28, 1870. The name of this Lodge is Pocomtuck, No. 97. Today this most excellent order is represented in Greenfield by subordinate Lodge, Encampment, Cantonment, etc., and the Rebekah Degree, or ladies' auxiliary to Odd Fellowship. It has the finest fraternal and commercial building in Greenfield.

The Knights of Pythias order was formed in Washington, D. C., at the close of the Civil War and has now spread throughout the country generally. It is here represented by a well conducted Lodge.

In common with other sections in Massachusetts Greenfield has its order of Knights of Columbus, before mentioned, as well as the Order of Moose.

The Elks, or Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, was organized January 7, 1913, with forty-four members and in 1925 has a membership of four hundred and seventy-five. The Elks Home at the corner of Church and Federal streets, was purchased in 1913, from Mrs. Starkey who had formerly occupied it as a residence. After much alteration it was first occupied and officially opened on the evening of October 14, 1913. The author is indebted to Secretary Charles T. Ward for the above information.

Banks and Banking—The first bank organized in Greenfield was the Franklin Bank, incorporated in 1822, with a capital of $100,000, and commenced business in the fore part of the year following with fifty per cent paid in capital while the next December all was paid in. In March, 1831, the name was changed to the Greenfield Bank. In March, 1833, the capital was increased to $150,000, and in April, 1849, again increased $50,000, making it $200,000. In June, 1864, the bank was re-organized under the national banking act as "The First National Bank of Greenfield." In March, 1865, the capital was increased to $300,000, at which amount it remained until March, 1879, when it was reduced to $200,000. With passing years this institution has grown to be one of the largest links in the chain of banks in the place which now boasts of being the financial center with five strong banking concerns with a combined resource amounting to $21,000,000. The official statement at the close of business December 31, 1924, gave their resources and liabilities as $4,388,748.79. Capital stock was then $300,000; surplus and net profits, $545,320.61; deposits, $3,228,428.18. The present officers include Joseph W. Stevens, Chairman of the board of directors; John W. Smead, president; John E. Donovan, and Clayton R. Bond, vice-presidents and D. Rollin Alvord, cashier.

What is now the Franklin County Trust Company, was organized as a State bank, with $100,000 capital, April 24, 1849. The original directors were Henry W. Cushman, John B. Ward, Ebenezer Maynard, Henry Chapman, Almon Brainard, Quintus Allen, Ira Abercrombie, Joel Fay, Wendell T. Davis, Asa Howland, William B. Washburn, William Keith. The president was H. W. Cushman and cashier, Andrew G. Hammond. William B. Washburn resigned from the board in 1858 in the month of April.

The bank then known as the Franklin County Bank, on May 1, 1865, conveyed its property to the "Franklin County National Bank of Greenfield," the institution having organized under the

national banking act. When first organized as a National bank its directors were: Ira Abercrombie, Quintus Allen, William Keith, Whiting Griswold, John Sanderson, Dennis Dickinson, Joel Fay, J. T. Wescott and George A. Whipple.

In 1912 this institution was changed from a National bank to The Franklin County Trust Company. Its officers are: John H. Sanderson, president; Charles H. Keith, vice-president; William B. Keith, vice-president and treasurer; Herbert V. Erickson, trust officer. At the close of business, December 31, 1924, the assets and liabilities were $3,648,039.32. Its capital stock is $200,000; surplus and profits, $278,580.65; deposits, $3,149,331.42.

The Franklin Savings Institution was incorporated April 2, 1834, and forty years ago it had deposits amounting to $2,800,000. Its last statement, issued January 2, 1925, shows its deposits to be $10,920,706. Since incorporation this concern has paid to depositors in dividends, $11,099,607.73. The deposits have been by decades as follows: In 1858, $353,000; 1868, $1,119,589; 1878, $2,889,724; 1888, $3,225,929; 1898, $4,272,456; 1908, $6,220,869; 1918, $8,186,411.

Its present officers are: President—Charles Allen; vice-president—Frederick E. Wells; treasurer—Charles W. Nims; clerk—Charles N. Stoddard.

The present (1925) banking interests are taken care of through these institutions: The First National Bank; Franklin County Trust Co.; Franklin Savings Institution; Greenfield Co-operative Bank; and the Greenfield Savings Bank. These financial institutions are all strong, well equipped and finely conducted modern institutions in whom the community have the utmost confidence.

Greenfield Chamber of Commerce—November 22, 1919, this institution was organized by incorporation. No more significant reflection of Greenfield's progressive spirit can be found than in the perusal of the annual reports of this Chamber of Commerce, which was organized by Joseph W. Stevens, president, and others, to supersede the old Board of Trade. It now has a membership of about eight hundred. It has materially aided in the building of the recently finished new High School building and was influential in the passage of a bill for the purchase by the State of the timbered land along the Mohawk Trail, which had been threatened with destruction. The Chamber of Commerce has also been the direct means of having placed a permanent exhibit of Greenfield's productions, the same being housed at the Weldon Hotel,

where thousands of tourists stop monthly in the touring season.

The Chamber has for its present officers: President, H. D. Seavey; vice-presidents, H. E. Hamilton, Irving N. Esleeck; John E. Kiley, clerk; Earl N. W. Kellogg, treasurer; M. J. Duryea, manager. The Board of Directors are: Joseph T. Bartlett, C. R. Bond, H. G. Carson, Ralph E. Durkee, Irving N. Esleeck, H. E. Hamilton, Clifford W. Root, H. D. Seavey, J. T. Seller, George A. Sheldon, S. U. Streeter, George W. Wilcox. This Chamber is a member of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America.

Newspapers—The pioneer local newspaper of Greenfield was "The Impartial Intelligencer," established in 1792 by Thomas Dickman. Its name was soon changed to the "Greenfield Gazette," and again in 1795 took the name of "Greenfield Gazette—A Register of Genuine Federalism." In 1802 this publication passed into the hands of John Denio, who dropped the party suffix, and it was again the "Greenfield Gazette." Denio sold to Ansel Phelps in 1811, who changed the name to the "Traveller." On the establishment of Franklin county, June 24, 1811, the paper appeared as the "Franklin Herald." In 1823, Jonathan A. Saxton was associated with Mr. Phelps for a time, also Gen. Alanson Clark.

In 1823 another paper was started under the name of "Greenfield Gazette," which soon united with the "Franklin Herald" and was so merged in 1827.

The "Franklin Mercury" was established in 1833, by George T. Davis. In 1837 it was united with the "Gazette and Herald," Charles J. J. Ingersoll becoming a partner with Mr. Phelps.

A new rival came in 1838 called the "Greenfield Courier," established by J. C. Kneeland, who soon sold to S. S. Eastman. In 1841 this paper merged with its older rival under the name of "Gazette and Courier." Phelps and Ingersoll were joint owners and editors until the nomination of Gen. Taylor to the presidency, whom Mr. Phelps sustained and Mr. Ingersoll opposed. Ingersoll left the firm and established a free soil journal called the "American Republic," which he ably sustained several years. In 1849, Mr. Phelps entered partnership with Mr. Eastman in the publishing of the "Gazette and Courier" continuing until the death of Mr. Phelps, in 1868. In 1869 Mr. Eastman formed a partnership with E. A. Hall, which lasted until the death of Mr. Eastman in 1876.

The "Franklin Democrat" was established in 1840, and was edited for a short period by Whiting Griswold, R. R. Taylor, S. O. Lamb, J. H. Sprague, Charles A. Merrick, and others. It was

discontinued in 1863. The newspapers having a very short life here may be grouped under the one name "Legion."

Greenfield's present newspapers are these: The "Greenfield Recorder," now in its twenty-sixth volume, is published by a company with J. W. Haigis as managing editor; the "Weekly Gazette and Courier," established in 1792 and now published by the E. A. Hall Publishing Company; the "Franklin County News," published Fridays, was established in 1915; its editor is Robert Oliver. The oldest paper in the town is the "Gazette and Courier" and its present circulation is 4,950 each week.

The "Recorder" celebrated its silver anniversary December 31, 1924, and in the issue of that date they gave a brief history of their newspaper. From this editorial the following facts are gleaned: The weekly "Recorder" was established and its first issue was printed January 3, 1900. In that issue it stated that "The Recorder will be independent in politics; it will be the servant of no party, the instrument of no person." The "Recorder" has for its managing editor John W. Haigis; for its associate editor, William P. Gorey. Its well equipped office is located at No. 397 Main Street. The "Recorder" is now a prosperous daily paper.

Public Libraries—The first public library organized in Greenfield was at the North Parish about 1820. It was called the "Social Library, Greenfield." It was supported by annual payments by its members. The library was kept at the house of Franklin Nash at Nash's Mills. It was disbanded in 1855 and the books turned over to the village of Greenville. In 1852, an association was formed in Greenfield village, mainly through the efforts of J. E. Thompson, J. K. Moore, L. M. Rice, C. C. Carpenter and others. It was a sort of mutual book exchange and in this way about 300 books were collected together. The Greenfield Library Association was established in February, 1855. The articles were signed by Henry W. Clapp, John Russell, Matthew Chapman and sixty others. Its first officers were Henry W. Clapp, president; Charles Allen, secretary; George Ripley, treasurer, and Edward F. Raymond was librarian. The books were removed to the Mansion House and there the library remained until 1867 when it was moved to the south side of Armory Hall where a ten years lease was secured. In 1878 ex-governor William B. Washburn donated the present fine brick library structure at the corner of Franklin and Main streets; the gift will ever stand as a monument to Mr. Washburn. In 1888, Judge Charles Allen, of Boston, presented the library with

a fine portrait of Mr. Washburn as a befitting memorial. This library cost (superstructure) $5,530. Mr. Washburn also endowed the library with $10,000 besides. The present (1925) librarian is Mrs. Elizabeth Morgan Noyes.

The Free Public Library was the result of a meeting in March, 1880, when it was voted "That the town established a free public library for the free use of its inhabitants. In 1881 the town selected five directors of the Free Public Library. Some of the books of the old Library Association were secured and the dog tax was turned in toward the library fund. At first the library was kept in Franklin Hall, but in 1889 the books were moved to the west store room in said building. At that date the number of books was only three hundred, but the latest report of the librarian of the Free Public Library shows the present number of books to be 33,604. 93,700 books were circulated during the last year.

It should be said that the present library building, as viewed from Main Street entrance, is a remodeled old-time homestead residence once owned by the greatly admired and liberal-hearted Judge Jonathan Leavitt, who was a leading and powerful factor in community life in and around Greenfield. In this old residence was born, married and died numerous members of the Leavitt family. This place was long known as "Social Villa." The old homestead later was occupied nearly a half century by others, including the Hovey family, from whose estate the library purchased the property it now occupies, and moved into it in January, 1909. The good brick addition at the north, used as a "stack" building for the safe preservation of books, etc., was built in 1907-09 and is of much importance. The present librarian is May Ashley, who is thoroughly acquainted with every detail of overseeing a public library in a most satisfactory manner.

Water Works and Fire Company—The first attempt at providing any kind of a water system for Greenfield village was by the Greenfield Aqueduct Company in 1846, when they purchased a large spring and started to conduct water to the town through three-inch pine log pipes. At about that time a new fire engine was bought at a cost of $1,000. In 1866 the Greenfield Water Works was incorporated. The present system as shown in the last Town Reports, consists of the Water Department's plant owned by the town, installed in 1872. The source of supply is reservoirs on Leyden Glen Brook near Green River, water supplied by gravity and emergency pumping. One reservoir holds 45,000,000 gallons

and the other has a capacity of 26,000,000 gallons, while an additional reservoir holds 2,500,000 gallons. The Green River pump throws a stream of 2,100 gallons per minute and the pump at the boosting station has a capacity of 1,805 gallons per minute. Present number of miles of water pipes is 59.2. Total hydrants in use, 445. Total number of gallons of water consumed in 1924 was 550,662,000.

The first fire department was organized in 1850 and soon there were two fire engines on hand and two well drilled companies. The present organization is composed of the chief, deputy, and clerk, two district chiefs, two hose companies, one hook-and-ladder company and five permanent men. There are five pieces of motor-driven apparatus; two combination hose and chemical wagons, one hook-and-ladder truck and seven thousand feet of fire hose. During the last year fire destroyed only $30,795 out of a total value of property in fire risks of $247,325. Total expense of department in the last year was $17,000.

Present Town Officers—The present town officers of Greenfield are: Town clerk—Edward P. Harrison; treasurer—William Blake Allen; selectmen—F. Deane Avery, Harry E. Ward, James B. Kennedy; assessors—John D. Kiely, George D. Haskins, and William A. Bell; overseers of the poor—Edward K. Ballou, Hervey C. Porter, H. M. S. Couillard; collector of taxes—George H. Kelleher; park commissioners—Thomas L. Comstock, Jeremiah Keefe, Alice N. Judd; auditors—Albert B. Allen, Merle W. Scott, Clifford W. Root; moderator—Charles Fairhurst; clerk of selectmen—Charles S. Barrett; superintendent of the streets—Emil M. Schneck; town engineer—Emil M. Schneck; town solicitor—M. J. Levy.

Industrial Interests—Greenfield with a population of 16,000 has increased forty-eight per cent in the last decade; has thirty manufacturing plants, little and big, with an annual output of twelve million dollars worth of goods. It is a manufacturing center; has fifty daily passenger trains; through passenger and freight service to all points in the United States; has the largest freight and transfer yards in New England located in East Deerfield. Here are handled 1,600 freight cars daily. It is the center terminal of a division of the Boston & Maine railroad system which has more tonnage of freight than any other two-track road in the United States.

It has handsome parks—Rocky Mountain, Highland and Shattuck

parks. It is the terminal of the celebrated "Mohawk Trail." A recent slogan in describing the place is "All Roads Lead to Greenfield." The place has fine commercial and tourists hotels. In contrast to the lively scenes of today in this section the reader may be interested in this paragraph, written August 22, 1822, which reads as follows:

> In Greenfield village there are dwelling houses 80, barns and corn cribs 72, woodhouses 57, stores for merchandise 14, meeting-houses one Congregational, Episcopal one; the courthouse, jail, one bank—total buildings 253. Families 85, lawyers 10, traders 9, mechanics 39, tavern keepers 2, physicians 2, total men 90, boys and young men under twenty-one, 130; total males 220; total females: widows 14, married women 68, single ladies and girls, 182; total females 264. Total inhabitants 484.

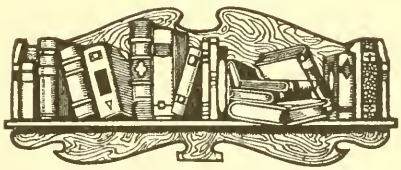
The erection of a dam at Turners Falls in 1866, under direction of George W. Potter, of Greenfield, Alvah Crocker, Esq., being the chief promoter of the enterprise, opened up a new era of prosperity for Greenfield. In 1887 came the "Electrical era" for that year saw the introduction of the Electric Light and Power Company for Greenfield, the real forerunner of the later hydro-electric power developments for which this section is now noted.

The Green River Works for making cutlery were established in 1834 by John Russell, the first to make cutlery in America. The buildings were burned in 1836 and rebuilt at once. The Greenfield Manufacturing Company with a capital of $80,000 was established in 1832 and made doeskins exclusively. These works made 140,000 yards of these goods annually, from 150,000 to 175,000 pounds of wool were used in these mills every year. One hundred and twenty persons found employment.

In 1872 was started the great "Tap and Die" industry. Here on the Green River, where in 1714 enterprising men of old Deerfield established a mill and where the first cutlery in America was founded in 1834, Wiley & Russell began to make taps and dies; Wells Brothers later successfully put out screw-plates and in 1912 these competitors were united in the Greenfield Tap and Die Corporation, whose goods go to all parts of the globe. Goodell-Pratt Company, another factory plant of Greenfield, is one of the largest concerns of the place; they are engaged in the manufacture of fine tools of a great variety of kinds. In these works hundreds of mechanics find steady employment. The Rugg Manufacturing Company makes snow shovels in the summer, rakes in the winter, thus finding work for a considerable force the year round. The

celebrated sterling silver ware of Rogers, Lunt & Bowlen is made in Greenfield. E. Weissbrod & Sons, Inc., manufacture pocket books and sundry leather goods specialties. Hundreds of men are employed the year round in these and other industrial plants.

Population—The population of Greenfield in 1830 was 368; in 1840, 1,550; in 1850 it was 1,758; in 1855 had increased to 2,580; then coming down to modern days it is found that in 1900 it had reached 7,927; in 1910 it was 10,427, and by the last Federal census enumeration it was placed at 15,446. By the report recently made (1925) it is about 16,000.



CHAPTER VII

GREENFIELD COMMON TO BLOODY BROOK

By Hon. Francis Nims Thompson

Historic Points Along a Prehistoric Highway—When the American Continent appeared above the waters, and the Connecticut and similar valleys were still arms of the great ocean, marine monsters were leaving bird-like tracks in mud which became Connecticut River sandstone, and if these creatures wandered from the place of their origin they swam or trod the course of this inundated valley.

Ages later the red man paddled his birch or log canoe upon his "great river," our Connecticut, or followed its shores, until he was driven back by the tide of civilization which pressed irresistably up that fertile valley. The white man came, and still the highway ran where it did when order developed from chaos, through the beautiful and fruitful valley of the Connecticut River.

Our County of Franklin is the most northern of the three into which old Hampshire was divided more than a century ago. Bisected by the broader stream, its eastern half is again severed by the Miller's River, and its western by the Deerfield. In the middle of the county lies its shire town of Greenfield, bounded easterly by Fall River and the Connecticut, and southerly by the Deerfield; and in the centre of Greenfield is its little green common at the heart of which is a monument to the soldiers of the Civil War—a splendid shaft of Aberdeen granite surmounted by a bronze eagle cast in France. It commemorates the five hundred men whom Greenfield sent to save the Union, and especially the fifty who gave their lives for the cause. At its dedication in 1870, General Charles Devens, a Greenfield man, delivered the address.

Standing by this monument we are at the hub of the county, and a hundred miles from Boston Harbor, Long Island Sound and the White Mountains. East and west, Main Street runs, where it has these two hundred years, taking a slight bend where a "crotched apple tree" once marked the angle. Some of its elms must have sheltered the first settlers who came from Deerfield to occupy these "Green River lands."

At Green River, crossed near the west end of Main Street by a steel bridge, begins the State highway known as the Mohawk

Trail, which winds through and over the western hills toward Hoosac Mountain, North Adams, and Albany. Its course along the Deerfield River follows the ancient stage road from Deerfield to Albany and is in places identical with the trail of the Mohawk Indians to the region of the Pocumtuck tribe. It was up Green River that Deerfield settlers were led toward Canada by their French and Indian captors after the raid in 1704, and by its bank in the northerly part of Greenfield is a stone erected to mark the place where "the cruel and blood-thirsty savage with his hatchet at one stroke" slew the wife of Reverend John Williams. And by this stream, which the red men called the Picomegan, Captain William Turner, of Boston, was killed in 1676 by King Philip's Indians who pursued him after his attack upon them at the salmon fishing falls, now Turner's Falls. The story is told upon a boulder near the "North Parish Church," the second meeting house of the First Congregational Society.

Federal Street, running northerly from Greenfield Common toward Bernardston and the upper Connecticut valley, was laid out in 1788. At its intersection with Silver Street stood the town's first meeting house from 1768 to 1831. Gill, east of Fall River, was until 1793 part of Greenfield. Town and parish were identical until the organization in 1812 of the local Episcopal Church. The second orthodox meeting house was a square brick building of the galleried type, built in 1819 by the Second Congregational Society on Court Square, where its present stone church was erected in 1868.

Court Square forms the western boundary of the common, Bank Row the eastern. Across its green the county's first court house, probably completed in 1813, faces its less dignified successor, and the brick store on Allen's corner opposes that on Arms'. "S. Allen, 1812" is writ large on the old brick block in which his grandson still keeps the hardware store. Next it has been a drug store some four-score years. Then comes the First National Bank, a hundred years old, where the savings institution once kept it company; and the early court house is now the home of the "Gazette & Courier," first issued in 1792 as the "Imperial Intelligencer," and now one of the oldest newspapers in the country. Opposite it, and next the church, still stands the colonial home of the paper's first editor and the county's first lawyer, William Coleman. He went to New York, founded the "Evening Post" and became the law partner of Aaron Burr and the intimate friend of Alexander Hamilton.

This house was built about 1800 from plans by Asher Benjamin. Where the present court house was erected in 1848, had stood since 1793 the "mansion house" of Rev. Roger Newton, who was in 1816 "gathered to his fathers in the 80th year of his age and the 56th of his ministry." That he owned a slave, known as Old Tenor, makes us realize the changes time brings. Dr. Newton's house, removed to the rear of the court house, still stands there on Newton Place.

Before the common there was placed in 1903 a graceful granite watering trough "to commemorate the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of the town of Greenfield." Stand by it as a full moon rises over the wooded hill at the head of the elm-arched Main Street, and enjoy the scene's memorable beauty. The residence at the center of the picture was the Grinnell homestead. On its left is the "Bird" house of yellow brick, where Judge Fessenden lives, and on the hill is the home of Chief Justice Aiken. Both men were formerly on the Superior bench. White houses (once occupied by brothers of the late Justice Charles Allen of the Supreme Court of this state) gleam on the right, and opposite are the white columns of the stately residence of Mrs. A. D. Potter. East Main Street, with its great elms green in summer, dropping golden leaves upon velvety grass plots in autumn, or with bare black branches outlined with winter's white, presents by moonlight or in sunshine a picture which many have carried with them to distant homes. Some of these elms, and those on Franklin Street, were planted about 1845 by Henry W. Clapp, a public-spirited citizen of the town. His home, built in 1822 by E. A. Gould, is that now owned by Mrs. Potter. It is said that it was built with the proceeds of a lottery prize, and the Newell Snow house, now home of the Greenfield Club, with gold from a mine in Nova Scotia. On the south side of the street are the former residences of Governor William B. Washburn and Attorney General Dana Malone. A brick house, formerly a gun factory, was afterward a doctor's home and office, then a lawyer's, and is now occupied by the Girls' Club, and Grand Army of the Republic—girls of six to sixty, and men of '61 to '66. Nearly opposite is a fine century old mansion with curious wings on either side. This was long ago the home of Judge Leavitt of the Probate Court, and now houses the excellent public library of Greenfield. On the corners of Main and Federal streets, opposite the common, stand a grey granite bank and a red brick hotel. Mansion House corner has seen many

generations of travellers come and go, and the Franklin Savings Institution, a ten million dollar bank, has guarded the savings of the people since 1834.

Main Street was laid out a hundred feet wide, and the road entering Greenfield from the south was made fourteen rods wide, the common being part of the highway. South of this common the road was known as Clay Hill, and there once stood the little museum of Dexter Marsh. This uneducated man, curious to learn from the book of nature, turned the leaves of red sandstone that had for thousands of years awaited him, and there saw hieroglyphics which told him that living creatures had in by-gone ages inhabited the valley. "Bird-tracks" he called them, and exhibited them with other curios in his cabinet; he also corresponded with the world's great naturalists and furnished specimens to colleges and foreign museums; Louis Agassiz came here, and their meaning was deciphered.

In 1846 the railroad first came to Greenfield, being extended from Northampton. The present underpass at the foot of Clay Hill was not made until 1892; and two years later, after a great deal of controversy, the electric railway was allowed to enter the village through that narrow portal. Passing through it we are "below the station" and at the junction of Deerfield and Mill streets. These names savor of history and we are in the old part of the town, by Green River and on the way to Deerfield River and Deerfield town. Here is the "Union House," once the official residence of the first jailor. The jail stood just to the south and the "jail limits"—within which privileged prisoners were "confined"—included most of the little village of that day. Some of the rough granite blocks which composed its walls were taken about 1856 to the second jail (now on Hope Street and used as a pocketbook manufactory) and there still border the sidewalk as a retaining wall.

It was on Deerfield Street that the first well was dug in the Green River settlement, and nearby is a dam furnishing power for the Wiley & Russell division of the Greenfield Tap & Die Corporation. Here was originally the Green River Cutlery, now located at Turner's Falls. It was the first cutlery in America and employed the German-born ancestors of many good citizens of Greenfield. Later the pioneer makers of screw-cutting tools were here, and now Greenfield is the tap and die town of the world.

At about this point there have been at least five dams, and in the old days the wheels of satinette, fulling, and bark mills were

turned by this power. This waterfall jars the foundations of Highland Avenue, half a mile eastward, but often in spring freshets the waters of the Connecticut set back into the Deerfield and flood the meadows; and then this temporary lake may quietly rise until here in Green River there is but a ripple, and sometimes a rowboat may safely pass up or down over the dam. It was farther up this stream that the first corn mill on Green River was established about 1700.

The "Proprietors of the Common Field in Deerfield" had power as early as 1734 to compel each land owner to keep up his proportion of the common fence. The enclosure included land north of the Deerfield River, and the old gate there was just above the stone piers which for a generation marked the failure of a railroad venture. In 1863 these were erected to support a light iron bridge across highway and river, and tracks were laid across Petty's plain, for Greenfield had not then extended far to the north. A train of cars, not coupled together, was backed into the bridge by the engineer, George A. Kimball, of Greenfield, to test its strength. The result was disastrous, for one of the spans gave way, precipitating cars into the river. A wooden structure was then built and carried trains for a few years, until the railroad was brought up around the head of the valley in the great curve it still takes. Westbound trains run southerly three miles to stillwater, from which place the railroad follows up the winding gorge of the Deerfield River northwesterly to Hoosac tunnel.

The region north of the Deerfield was known as Cheapside, and sometimes as Toughend. The meadow west of Green River, sequestered for the use of the ministry of Deerfield, and long the subject of bitter controversy, was in 1768 the scene of a pitched battle, ownership of the hay being a matter of dispute between Deerfield and Greenfield and pitchforks being actively and belligerently used. Cheapside, a part of Greenfield since 1896, was for nearly one hundred and fifty years previous a bone of contention between Mother Deerfield and growing Greenfield. About a century ago its partizans were moving the Legislature and everything short of heaven and earth to make it the county seat of the new county of Franklin; some political tricks amusing in retrospect were performed, and after the county buildings had been located the old fight to make the region a part of Greenfield was resumed. Finally, when at one "March meeting" the Cheapside voters, driving down with Greenfield horses to vote in Deerfield, were prevented by a

spring freshet from driving home again, the act of annexation was passed by the Legislature, but the governor delayed his signature until May 2d so as to give the old town, as solace for her loss, the taxes assessed as of May 1st.

From Cheapside we look across the river and its valley to the village of Deerfield—across lovely North Meadow, above whose waving crops Pine Hill rises green like a wooded island. Near this plateau's northern end was the ferry of early days, and by its sheltering side swept the savages on swift snowshoes that snowy night in 1704, when they sacked Old Deerfield and led or drove captive; over that trail up Green River and on through knee-deep snow, men who plotted desperate escape, lads who had perhaps dreamed of the free and natural life of the Indian, children who clung to hands dyed by their parents' blood, women who fell by the way, and those who were "carried captive to Canada, whence they came not back."

We cross the Deerfield, peacefully and safely, on a covered wooden bridge that carries us also more than half way back to the time of the massacre, for it was erected in 1806 and the marks of its antiquity are those of the adze on old timbers. It was a toll bridge and the corporation which built it was to take toll for seventy years and then leave it a good substantial bridge for the free use of the public; but it is said that the company neglected to keep the bridge in perfect repair and had to be reminded to cease taking toll. A bit further down the stream may still be seen the stonework of a pier where rum, molasses, and other "West India goods" were landed when Cheapside was the head of navigation, and Abercrombie's tavern, still standing, was the center of trade for this region.

Across the river lies Deerfield, Mecca for antiquaries, students of history and hunters of ancestors, and possessing charm for those who find beauty in picturesque homes under ancient elms and in the home industries of our foremothers. A mile or so of state highway curving around fertile North Meadow and then a sharp turn into a straight stretch of broad street under old trees whose great columns were set by nature to uphold a leafy heaven. Under this canopy still remain houses which were not destroyed when the town was ravished in 1704, and homes in which are those whose ancestral blood was tested in troublous times. The frontier was exposed and the Indian crafty, but the settler was determined, and fought for his mate and their young. "God sifted a nation to find

seed to send into this wilderness" and later He found, in such New England towns as this, plenty of good seed with which to sow the fertile West.

On the right of this old Town Street a stone marks the "Sheldon Homestead—Bought by John Sheldon in 1708" and for these two centuries handed down from sire to son. Here George Sheldon, the historian of Deerfield, was born in 1818. Further down the street is a fine gambrel-roofed home built about 1772 and right worthy to be termed "mansion house." Here Mr. Sheldon died at the age of ninety-eight, and here Mrs. Sheldon now lives and carries on the work her husband did so well and so long. This place was the home of their ancestor Captain Joseph Stebbins of Bunker Hill fame.

"The pink house" opposite was built by Colonel David Field, who owned the place from 1754 to 1785 and who was a delegate to the Provincial Congress and the constitutional convention. Here the liberty pole was planted by the patriots when the fruit of such planting was extremely uncertain. The house of John Stebbins, standing here in 1704, was then burned and the entire family captured. This Stebbins was the only man known to have escaped uninjured from the Bloody Brook massacre.

On a suitable elevation stands the brick meeting house erected in 1824. It is a fine building of the Sir Christopher Wren type, and perched upon its spire is the cock bought by the town in 1731. Like many another old New England meeting house it is now the property of a Unitarian society. The interior, with its high mahogany pulpit, square pews, and gallery around three sides, is perfectly preserved. The communion silver is very interesting and the church service includes a Paul Revere tankard of pewter.

Beyond the church is the common. This was within the palisade, and the curb of its well may be seen near the soldier's monument. Facing the common was the Benoni Stebbins house, which on that fatal 29th of February, 1704, was held for three hours against two hundred soldiers and one hundred and forty Indians by "7 men besides women and children." Impressive figures these. The door of the next house, Ensign Sheldon's, studded with nails and hacked by the Indians, formed the nucleus of the Sheldon collection of frontier and Indian relics. Here are the buildings of Deerfield Academy, an ancient school, teaching the ancient truths by most modern and efficient methods. Its brick school house, facing the common, replaced about 1876 the house which the town had

built in 1707 for its first settled minister, Rev. John Williams, "the redeemed captive returned to Zion". That house now stands in the rear, upon the Albany road, and serves as a dormitory. One of its many interesting features is a "secret staircase"—though an enclosed stairway an open secret. Across the Albany road are other old houses, thoroughly and intelligently restored, also occupied by the school. One of these is that in which was born in 1793, President Edward Hitchcock, of Amherst College. He was, during different periods, State geologist of Massachusetts, New York, and Vermont; and from his pen came the first scientific account of the "bird"-tracks of the valley.

The Albany road follows the Indian's trail between the Pocumtuck and Mohawk valleys. It passes the old burying ground, fords the river and proceeds westward through Wisdom and over the hills toward Albany. The Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association has recently published the inscriptions on the stones in the ancient burial place. There rest the pioneers who in this valley blazed a trail for civilization. In one grave lie the bodies of forty-eight persons—"the dead of 1704". One hundred and eleven were captives in Canada, and only twenty-five men, as many women and seventy-five children, forty-three of whom were under ten years of age, were left." One of the objects of the raid of 1704 was the capture of the Deerfield minister, and in "the beginning of the onset" the Indians went to his home, built by the town in 1686, and burned it. Two of his children and a negro servant were murdered on its doorstep. All the rest of the family, except a son absent at school, were captured. The body of Mrs. Williams, slain during the second day's march, was brought back to Deerfield for burial. Of their children carried to Canada four came back, but Eunice married an Indian and could not be induced to return to civilized life. Rev. John Williams, after his own return late in 1706, made repeated trips to Canada in his efforts to redeem other captives.

On the east side of Old Deerfield Street stands "Frary House"—the oldest in the county and a fine specimen of its period. At the time of the sack of Deerfield it had already stood about twenty years. The south part of the building, known as " Barnard House", dates from about 1763 and was a tavern. There Benedict Arnold, newly commissioned as colonel, paused in 1775 on his way to Ticonderoga. Miss C. Alice Baker purchased this property in 1890 and restored it. She devised it, subject to life estates, to the P. V.

M. A. as trustee for posterity. Her fascinating "True Stories of New England Captives" are exceedingly valuable as history and ably demonstrate her ability as a writer. She was descended from Samson Frary and also from Godfrey Nims, whose homestead is next south. These were two of the earliest settlers.

The Nims homestead remained in that family for over two hundred years. The first house on its site was burned in 1694, when a stepson, Jeremiah Hull, perished. "Godfrey Nims's son, a boy about ten years of age, went into the chamber with a light and by accident fired some flax or tow, which fired the house." The second house was burned during the attack on Deerfield, and the bodies of three little daughters, found in the cellar, were laid with "the dead of 1704". A married daughter, her husband and their child, were killed. One son was slain and another captured. Mrs. Nims, her mother and sisters, and her brother's wife and children were killed. Mrs. Nims' daughters, Elizabeth Hull and Abigail Nims, were carried to Canada. Godfrey Nims' eldest son and a stepson had been captured in 1703. He was the father of eleven children, but "when the flame-lit night of February 29th, 1704, gave place to the cold dawn of March first, and Godfrey Nims looked upon what had been his own hard-won home, there was left to comfort him but one member of his family." Her name was Thankful. Fitz John Winthrop was then governor of Connecticut, and a document found among his papers places the names of "The Rev'nd Mr. John Williams" and Godfrey Nims at the head of the list of Deerfield families in its "table of losses". John Nims escaped from Canada in 1705, and soon after married and built on the old site the present house. Ebenezer Nims was redeemed in 1714. Each left four sons to perpetuate the family name. Descendants of Thankful still live in Deerfield. Abigail "came not back" and for two centuries her history was unknown in Deerfield. Then Miss Baker's "Hunt for the Captives" revealed the record of her life and her descendants in Canada. Both Abigail and Ebenezer Nims were married in Canada to fellow captives, and Miss Baker has told with charm and power their thrilling stories, and that of Eunice Williams.

On the Nims lot stand "the white church", town hall and the "Memorial Hall" to which so many pilgrims come from this land and others. This building on Academy Lane was built from bricks made from clay of the lot, and was in 1799 dedicated to use as an academy. It was enlarged about 1810. After the academy moved

to its present location, this old building was bought, in 1878, by the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association. The new fireproof wing was added through the generosity of Mrs. George Sheldon. The "Sheldon Collection" of colonial frontier and Indian relics is unique and immense. It is a most fitting memorial to its distinguished founder, to whom all posterity will be increasingly indebted for the preservation of facts and objects which depict the history of the English settlers and the Pocumtuck Indians.

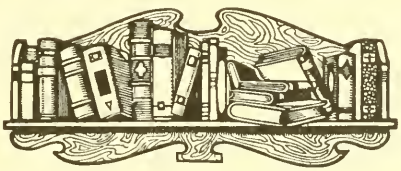
Toward the southerly end of the old street of Deerfield is the J. Wells Champney house, whose front door was brought from the home of Alexander Hamilton in New York. The stone before the next place on the right was erected by the children of Deerfield in memory of the boy hero of the Falls Fight (Turners Falls, 1676), Jonathan Wells, whose palisaded house stood here in 1704. The next place beyond was the boyhood home of Rear Admiral Higginson; and on the left, the Dr. Davis place was the home of Miss Sarah Barnard, whom Mr. Sheldon "and some of the boys" in 1864 elected a member of the school committee—the first woman in Massachusetts to occupy that position. The last house on the east side of the street was in 1698 the homestead of the founder of the Arms family in America.

At the south end of the old "town street," as at the north, we look out over green meadows. The roads to both right and left lead to South Deerfield, and it was here that an old woman washing clothes on the south porch was interrupted by a traveller who shouted "Which of these roads shall I take for South Deerfield?" She shortly replied, Yankee fashion, with a question:—"What do you suppose I care which you take?"—and went on washing. The main road now turns toward the east and south, and follows below Pocumtuck and East Mountain, through Wapping and up Long Hill. To the left lies Turnip Yard; and westward are Indian Bridge, The Bars and Meadow Mills, Hoosac and Stillwater, and Wisdom, where the descendants of Selah B. Wise once abounded. It was at Indian Bridge in 1695 that red men ambushed four horsemen, mortally wounding the town clerk, though Nims and Mattoon bore him home; and it was at The Bars, so called because here was one of the meadow "gates", that Samuel Allen died in 1746 defending his children—the last killing of our people by the savage natives. The old stone at his grave bears a message which is still timely: "Listen to me ye mortal men Bewar That you engage no more in direful War. By meanse of War my Soul from Earth is

fled, my Body Lodged in Mansions of the dead." The Samuel Allen house at The Bars was used by the artist George Fuller as a studio; the Fuller homestead being across the street from the Allen place.

South, the highway takes the traveller to Bloody Brook, where sleep the "Flower of Essex" since that September day in 1675 when, while they guarded a train of wagons of wheat, they were surprised by ambushed Indians. The seventeen teamsters, who had brought the garnered grain from the old "town street" over the historical highway, all fell, with Captain Lothrop and many others—a "choice company of young men, the very flower of the County of Essex". Sixty-four bodies were laid in one grave, says Mr. Sheldon, who was in 1835 present at the dedication of the Lothrop Monument and there received from the stirring oration by the renowned Edward Everett inspiration to promote the commemoration of other historic events. Of unknown age is the earlier tablet to the soldiers of Essex, laid upon their grave.

Bloody Brook has long centuries run clear; the air will not again reverberate with war-whoops of Indian savages; and the growth of these villages, towns and cities of our Connecticut Valley may, in time, merge its communities into one community. Men may come and men may go, but, until all men have gone, men will come and go along the path that nature made down this beautiful valley, long, long before man first came.



CHAPTER VIII

THE MANSION HOUSE CORNER *

By Elizabeth L. Adams

What is now known as the Mansion House Corner has been a site well known in the community ever since the old frontier days. The vigorous early settlers pushed their way up the Connecticut Valley from Springfield until they reached historic Deerfield in 1667. They reached the confines of Greenfield in 1686, but it was not until 1743 that Greenfield won its independence as a district and ten years later as a town.

Before Franklin County sprang into existence, before the incorporation of the town of Greenfield, even before the laying out of streets, this spot was destined to become truly historic for here it was that the old Corse Fort stood, one of the earliest buildings of which we have any record in this vicinity.

It was the east end of the present lot which was within the confines of the fort those palisades occupying what is now a part of the library grounds.

We must search the Hampshire Abstracts for the earliest records of this Lot No. 11 (the Mansion House Lot) which seems to have been granted to Benoni Moore who sold it to Ebenezer Severance April 17, 1720. Ebenezer Severance, by a deed dated April 18, 1720, transferred to James Corse, the old hunter, that lot on which now stands the Mansion House, (together with other lands) described as follows: "all that allotment on Green River which I bought of Benoni Moore, 30 acre allotment and an eight acre home lot No. 11 bounded east by home lot of Thomas French 2nd, west by home lot of Nathaniel Brooks, north by undivided lands and south by the street."

That street later received municipal sanction to be called Main Street.

The lot was 80 rods in length and 16 rods in width.

James Corse, the celebrated hunter and scout, was probably the landlord of the first tavern kept in Greenfield.

The exact date of his building his house is not known, but it

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* This paper was read by Elizabeth L. Adams before the Greenfield Historical Society, November 8, 1912.

was undoubtedly soon after he obtained his title to this land in 1720, as he was married August 21, 1721. Nothing can be learned about the house, but a conjectural guess would be that it was of logs.

His house became the general meeting place for the people. Probably the first preaching services which occurred in Greenfield were held on Sundays when the town was almost a wilderness. Meetings of the ancient proprietors of grants were held here and other assemblies and the house was thrown open as an inn.

James Corse was the historic hunter and trapper and his bear and wolf traps were scattered far and near, for his hunting ground covered a large territory about here. Doubtless many an epicure could testify to the sumptuous meals of bear meat and venison that were probably served at this country inn nearly two centuries ago.

During the French and Indian wars this Corse house was garrisoned by government soldiers and it was the place of refuge in times of sudden danger.

In 1754 it was voted that: "James Corse house should be one of three which should be picqueted in the district." The other houses were those of Joshua Wells and Shubel Atherton.

Among the records of town affairs in this frontier settlement, we find December, 1755, voted: "that they would give James Corse thirteen pounds old tenour for the use of his house to meet in on Sabbaths and other necessary meetings this year." The amount of recompense which he received from the town for the use of his house for meetings for public affairs varied from year to year.

In 1757 they voted to give him "two pounds for his house to meet in on Sabbath and other necessary meetings. He giving the signal to meet." These signals were given by the beating of a drum and sometimes on a conch shell. This was when ecclesiastical affairs were a regular matter of business in which the town as a whole concerned itself.

In open town meetings votes were passed with relation to the meeting house and the settlement and dismissal of ministers. September, 1753, it was voted to "invite Rev. Mr. Edward Billing to settle in the work of the ministry among us" and for several years these meetings were held in the old Corse Fort. In the old town records I find James Corse's name as committee on church affairs and he held other offices..

In 1759 we find the first action of the town in relation to the building of a meeting house and a few years later that structure was

erected on Trap Plain so-called, the site of which is now marked by the stone watering trough at Long's Corner.

Aaron Denio's tavern was across Main Street near where the Masonic Block now stands, but it has long since passed away.

May 26, 1774, when James Corse was eighty years old, he conveyed the lot (the old tavern stand) to his son, Dan Corse, who, after a brief ownership of only about a year, sold it to Lemuel 'Bascom who owned much land in this vicinity. After ten years' ownership he sold to Caleb Alvord this property and about 4½ rods of land, being that location at the corner of Main and Federal streets. Three years later Mr. Alvord purchased about six rods more where the central portion of the Mansion House now stands and that again became a portion of the original acreage.

Federal Street did not exist at that time, the only road to the north from Main Street being by way of High Street so that our Mansion House Corner had not yet been carved out.

A more direct road was needed to reach the meeting house and a road was laid out from Greenfield Street to the meeting house—our Federal Street of today—which passed through Mr. Alvord's land, the tavern standing east of the road on the spot occupied by the present old part of the Mansion House. This road was accepted April 25, 1789, according to the old records.

May 5, 1792, Caleb Alvord sold to Calvin Munn this property, containing 1½ acres, more or less, for 360 pounds. The original large Corse lot had become reduced in size by the sale of several tracts of land from its north and east sides, but that part at the corner of Main and Federal streets always remained the old tavern stand.

Mr. Munn sold to Hart Leavitt 45 feet cut from the east end of his lot and on this the Leavitt store was built. Thompson's History of Greenfield tells us that this Hart Leavitt building, where the middle portion of the Mansion House now stands, was the home of the first newspaper published in Greenfield, the first post-office, and a book store. William Coleman was the father of the first newspaper, the "Impartial Intelligencer" which was published by Thomas Dickman, February, 1792. In the first numbers there is nothing to indicate the spot where the printing office was located, but November 5, 1795, the following notice was published:

"The public are respectfully informed that the Printing Office, Post Office and Book Store will in future be kept in the new building east of Mr. Munn's tavern (now the Mansion House). The Gazette will be delivered and all business appertaining to the above

mentioned occupation transacted on the lower floor east part of said building. By their humble servant, Thomas Dickman."

The paper changed names and homes several times and is our "Gazette and Courier" of today. Some of the Gazette "ads." of over a century ago are amusing.

"Cash will be paid for beef bladders suitable to pack snuff in at the printing office." Gazette.

Evidently printing business did not require the entire time of the publishers and they ran a side line—either for profit or for pleasure.

Thomas Dickman was appointed postmaster in 1789 and a post office for the first time was established in Greenfield. He received his commission from George Washington. There were at this time few post offices in the state and people within a radius of twenty miles came here for their mail. It is interesting to know that prior to this time the only post office in western Massachusetts was at Springfield. A post office was established in Northampton in 1792.

Now when we have daily papers from distant cities delivered at our very doors almost before the ink is dry and special delivery letters and other mail matter speeding as fast as steam and electric power can carry them, do we stop to realize what the establishment of this post office meant in our town only about 120 years ago, when the swiftest modes for conveyance of Uncle Sam's mail bags were the steam boat, stage coach or post riders? Early in the 19th century the mail from Boston was brought once a week on horseback. Surely times have changed in that line.

The post office was located here until 1802 when Mr. Ames was appointed postmaster. About the middle of the century, when D. N. Carpenter was postmaster, the post office was again located near the original site, this site having been covered by the extension of the building and is now the American Express Company's office.

In more recent years when Mr. Peleg Adams owned the Mansion House he fitted up an office for post office where the Greenfield News Company now is, and for the third time in its history the post office was here.

This was almost the identical site of the first post office in Franklin County, then Hampshire County. The post office has hovered around the Mansion House, apparently keeping the original location the center having been located always within a stone's

throw of the Mansion House, north, west and south of the original site, and now expects a home of its own, a government building to be erected a few rods east of the Mansion House, where is now located the residence of Mrs. W. E. Wood on Main Street.

The newspaper, "Franklin Democrat" was later published in this Hart Leavitt building, by the Miricks.

The late S. O. Lamb was editor for several years.. Besides the sale of this Leavitt tract, Mr. Munn, owner of the Mansion House, also sold to Dr. John Stone a lot six rods wide adjoining Leavitt, which passed through the hands of William Coleman, Benjamin Swan, Jonathan Leavitt and Hart Leavitt to David Ripley, on which he built his house. Daniel Clay's cabinet shop was on the north.

The original Corse house which had served as fort, meeting house, tavern, and had been the center of so much of the activity of Greenfield, was burned and a long wooden building, a little farther west, had succeeded it as tavern, this building facing Main Street as does the present brick structure.

This country tavern of simpler days was smaller than the present hotel, but finally with the advance of years and the increasing hotel business in the growing town of Greenfield, both these Leavitt and Stone or Ripley lots were bought back to add to the acreage and make possible a structure suitable to the demands of the times.

Mr. Munn was a Revolutionary soldier from Whitingham, Vt. and proved to be a good hotel man, since Munn's tavern became famous for miles around, and for a long series of years he was the host of the traveler and wayfaring man, laying the foundation of a good hotel business.

This venerable and veteran soldier of the Revolution was not without his troubles however, in conducting the tavern business, for in looking over some old files of paper which have been presented to this society, I find the following notice in the Greenfield Gazette or Massachusetts and Vermont Telegraph, September 29, 1796:

"$20 Reward.

"Stolen from off the subscribers horse standing at the door of Mr. Calvin Munn's in Greenfield on the 22d inst. in the evening, one half of a pair of saddle bags containing one-hundred and eighty dollars in cash and two pieces of India Cotton of about 14½ yards each. Among the cash was a piece of gold of 22 P 4 value. Whoever will secure the thief so that he may be brought to justice and

the property recovered shall receive twenty dollars reward, or for the property alone fifteen dollars, and all charges paid by Daniel Baker, Gill, Sept. 26, 1796."

This polite notice also appears in the same paper:

"Somebody has taken a pair of new saddle bags from Mr. Munn's Tavern, they are desired to return them immediately. Samuel Clark, Greenfield, Sept. 26, 1796."

Evidently saddle bags were in great demand in those days and it would have been interesting had the succeeding papers chronicled the facts as to whether the thieves were captured and brought to justice, and what punishment was meted out to them; but, unfortunately the papers of those days did not furnish the news in serial form any more than they do today.

The papers of those days devoted much to foreign intelligence, news from the West Indies, foreign battles, extracts from London papers and occasionally some mention of the high price of flour and other commodities, which shows that the high cost of living is not entirely a modern subject. News was received by the arrival of certain vessels from abroad.

They seemed particularly anxious to give credit to the proper authority for the source of their information as appears from the following notice:

"Boston, Sept. 12, 1796.

"On Saturday arrived here Capt. Swain 56 days from Bremen. He brought no papers. However, by the politeness of the Captain we are enabled to state the following interesting particulars."

Then followed report of a severe engagement between French and Austrian armies.

There is a dearth of local news in the ancient files of papers. Evidently they thought everybody knew his neighbor's affairs—local news and possibly gossip being swapped at the tavern office and country stores.

That Mr. Munn treated the horses well which put up at his barn we judge from the fact that he advertises for one hundred bushels of good oats. This old patriot, Calvin Munn, also kept a store in connection with the tavern as appears from the advertising columns of the local papers of that time.

"Greenfield Gazette, July 7, 1796.

"Calvin Munn

"Has just received a very general assortment of European, East and West India Goods. Price current Brandy 12s. W. I. Rum 11s.

Bohea Tea 2s. 8 and perhaps lower and all other articles upon the same scale. Cash and most kinds of produce will be received in payment and the smallest favor treated with due attention."

Think he must have been a sharp competitor with the merchant Beriah Willard for, in one of the advertising columns May 30, 1796, he "Respectfully informs his customers and the public at large that he has just bought a whole *Wagon Load* of goods" to sell.

But we must remember that this was the Greenfield of over a hundred years ago, when the combined population of Greenfield and Gill was not far from 1,500 and it bore but little resemblance to the town as it is today, with its nearly 12,000 inhabitants. It was the Greenfield, when, with all seriousness, votes were passed in open town meeting that horses, sheep and swine should run at large on the common lands.

No shrill whistle of nearby locomotive or screech of passing automobiles rushing over the brick pavement disturbed the peaceful slumbers of the guest in this quiet country tavern. Indeed, such sights and sounds would have been more amazing to the people of those days than the whirr of flying machines would be today.

"Other times, other customs."

When the tax bills on this tavern property were presented, they were based on an assessed valuation of the modest sum of about $3,000.00.

During Mr. Munn's ownership he was the landlord of the tavern most of the time. From 1797 to 1798 Elijah Lamb kept the house. Mr. Munn's competitor in the tavern business was the Willard tavern, called Well's Tavern, on the opposite corner across Federal Street.

Calvin Munn's name appears on the muster rolls of the Continental Army. He was a pensioner. What a fund of interesting reminiscences of Revolutionary days must have been his, and with what thrilling tales of battles and exciting incidents of war times he must have entertained his guests.

Mr. Munn owned other real estate in town, one of his holdings being the "mineral lot" so-called, from the supposed mineral deposits of copper, etc. In the old deeds it is referred to as the "mineral lot." This mineral lot is situated in the eastern part of Greenfield, bordering on the Connecticut River and is the east end of Rocky Mountain, so-called, opposite Turners Falls. Joel Meriam succeeded Munn in ownership and then it came into possession of Peleg Adams, who deeded it to his son and his son's wife, John

and Charlotte Adams, and it is now owned by their children, Ruth and Elizabeth Adams. I may say that none of the owners have become wealthy from the stores of minerals supposed to be deposited beneath its rocky surface. Some of Capt. Kidd's money is said to be buried on the steep banks sloping towards the river or on the island opposite. My grandfather told me that he knew of one man who avowed that he had seen these treasures.

It was on a moonlight night and the glittering gold lay all about in great quantities—more than he could carry. He hastened with all possible speed to his home to yoke up his ox team and load up his cart with these treasures of glittering gold. But, lo! when he returned to the scene with oxen and cart the gold had all disappeared!

To return to the Mansion House corner, the hotel property has increased in value, for May 13, 1815, Mr. Munn sold the Tavern Stand to Asa Goodenough for $6,000. It had gained a prestige too, for the deed refers to "That certain *mansion* situated in Greenfield, lately occupied by me as a tavern with the out buildings under and about the same." This is the first mention I find of the word "Mansion" in connection with the property. In former days it was not known as the "Mansion House." The hotel took its name from the owners—as "Munn's Tavern," "Goodenough's Tavern," and later "Newton's Hotel," "Smead's Hotel," etc.

Asa Goodenough was an energetic man and soon purchased the old Willard tavern located just west of him, Federal Street having been cut through between them, no doubt considering this the best way to put an end to competition from that course.

Besides the land on the west of Federal Street the deed also included a few feet of land lying easterly of these premises, between Federal Street and what was then the corner of the Willard tavern stand, this triangular piece having been cut off by the laying out of Federal Street. This street was three rods wide as originally laid out.

When he sold, he reserved the right of way which is now between the Franklin Savings Institution and the Fire Station.

Another restriction in this deed reads:

"Provided, however that if the said Munn, his heirs or assigns shall ever hereafter keep a tavern, or house of public entertainment upon the above granted premises, without the full license and consent of the said Asa Goodenough or his heirs or assigns first had

and obtained therefor, this deed to be void, otherwise to remain in full force."

These restrictions have been observed—no hotel having been kept on these premises and it seems hardly probably that Mr. Goodenough's deed of nearly 100 years ago will of necessity become void. These restrictions cover a part of the tract between Main, School, Ames and Federal streets.

Mr. Goodenough also purchased thirty-seven acres of land on Federal Street. His speculations brought him to grief and it was by sheriff's sale that Jeriel Preston came into possession of the hotel property in 1820 and he deeded it to Asaph and Homer Preston in 1823. They kept the house for two years and in April, 1825, sold it to Isaac Newton, Jr., son of Capt. Isaac Newton, for $500 more than Asa Goodenough had paid for it and it now becomes the Greenfield Hotel. He uses the columns of the local paper, 'Franklin Post and Christian Freeman" to make the following announcement:

GREENFIELD HOTEL

Isaac Newton, Jr.—Informs his friends and the public that he has purchased the Tavern Stand in the center of the pleasant village of Greenfield, lately occupied by Messrs. Preston, has procured faithful and obliging attendants for Kitchen, Bar and Barn and every exertion will be made to render this house a quiet resting place to those who travel for business or pleasure. He will be constantly provided with choice Liquors and all the variety of provisions which the country and the season will allow. May 23, 1825.

A great change now takes place in the old hotel stand. Greenfield has grown. The population of the town is nearly 1,500. Greenfield needs a new hotel. Farmers from the hills drive into town from every direction and it is the market for the farmers of all Franklin. Greenfield has become more of a trading center and it is the chief town of the region. It is the head of river navigation, the port of entry being Cheapside where the cargoes of merchandise are unloaded from the flat bottomed boats which are poled up the Connecticut and Deerfield rivers. Stage routes from north and south and from east and west areas cross each other here and make Greenfield their stopping place. The old Mansion House stand of nearly a century ago was the stage house or center for the stages and drivers, thirty or forty of whom often stopped there over night.

There was a stage route from Boston to Albany and the mail stage from Hartford, Conn. to Hanover, N. H. In their "ad."

for this entertainment in 1796 when the mail stage went only three times a week they said: "The proprietors pledge themselves to those who wish to travel with ease, speed and convenience that they will furnish elegant carriages and horses with careful and faithful drivers and that nothing on their part shall be wanting to render a seat in their carriages agreeable."

Greenfield instead of Deerfield has become the shire town and this has brought new dignity.

Men of high character practiced at the bar, men whose names have gained a state or national repute. Greenfield has become an important business center. The old stage tavern is inadequate to care for all its patrons. Surely Greenfield must have a new and up-to-date hotel. Mr. Newton realizes this and determines to keep pace with the times and retain the high hotel standard for which Greenfield was noted by building a new up-to-date brick hotel.

Busy scenes follow. The main part of the old building was moved down Main Street and converted into the dwelling house of George W. Mark, later occupied by Seaman's Silver Plating Works and recently torn down by Mr. Goodell. The new structure was of brick—one of the earliest in Greenfield constructed of such material. It was three stories high, 64 x 49 feet, cellar underneath with a two-story wooden ell, 68 feet long. Contained a hall 46 x 52. Eight parlors and fifty rooms. The main building extended as far east as what is now the American Express office. The entire lower floor of the house was used for hotel purposes, there being no stores there as now. There were three rooms on the front where Forbes' store, Hotel office and Greenfield Savings Bank now are, which served as hotel office and parlors. In the rear were the dining rooms, kitchen and other rooms, there being entrances from both Main and Federal streets. It had a wide piazza, the full length of the front; on the east side was a stable yard with room to turn a coach and four, backed by roomy stables, the driveway to which was from Main Street. Sept. 30, 1828, Isaac Newton formally opened this new brick hotel.

Eighty-four years ago!

It was a grand hotel and good cheer prevailed in an abundant degree. The hall was on the third floor, occupying the entire west or Federal Street end of the hotel and it has been the scene of many social functions, assemblies of all sorts, and dances to the fiddles of Philo, Temple, Charles Lyons, John Putnam and others. There

were cotillion parties and levees—long vanished scenes of former days.

Newton's hotel was built when construction work of this sort was done on honor, as the heavy stone bases, walls and supporting columns, which can be seen in the basement, testify today. Strong huge walls with mortar almost as hard as stone, which look as though they might stand for centuries to come, altho' the hands which built them have long since been laid to rest. Surely the house has a firm foundation, one of the first essentials in building construction.

The popularity of the house continued and in the palmy days of the old fashioned stage coach the business flourished. There were two lines of stages passing through Greenfield between Boston and Albany, going through in two days now instead of three. Fare $3.00 to either point. Another line was from Hartford, Connecticut, to Hanover, New Hampshire.

Thompson's History says: "One of the stage lines running north and south was the celebrated "Telegraph Line" which had the mail contract and was required to average seven miles per hour, including stops, running night and day.

The very best horses were used on this line and special coaches were built for it in Albany, weighing 1800 pounds. They were not allowed to take over six passengers and must make time or forfeit $100.00.

The regular coaches ran as usual, making ordinary time and passengers on the "Telegraph" paid about 20 per cent higher than the "regular coach."

The distance was about 100 miles and by relays of horses at regular intervals this rapid traveling was made possible, and in those days seemed very appropriately named the "Telegraph Line."

Some of the older people remember seeing these elegant stages roll up to the piazza in grand style, their coming preceded by the blowing of the driver's horn. There were other stage lines— over the Hoosac Mountains and to other points and business was brisk for all.

Then there were the great four and six horse freight wagons which made regular trips to Boston carrying down country produce and bringing back all sorts of merchandise. The round trip from Greenfield took about ten days.

Elijah S. Alvord kept the house in 1830.

July, 1833, Mr. Newton sold the Mansion House for $14,000 to

Charles, son of Colonel Asaph Smead including in the deed "the aqueduct which I own and by which the conveyed premises are watered." In 1836 Smead's "Stage Tavern" employed ten people Mr. Smead continued as landlord until 1842 when he disposed of it to Asher Spencer and Barnard Newell.

James Taggart became the landlord for a short time and was succeeded by Mr. Brewster from Northampton.

Greenfield was a far different town from what it now is. There were no railroads, no telegraphs, and telephones were unknown. In 1843 Paul Chase of Brattleboro, Vermont, purchased this noted hostelry and after four years sold it to George Field and Elijah Coleman, the aqueduct continuing to be mentioned in the deed. It is believed that this spring was located near what is now the residence of Samuel D. Conant on Grinnell Street.

Elijah Coleman was the son of Capt. Thaddeus Coleman of the Meadows.

After four years of hotel business he sold his interest to Wendell T. Davis and became interested in the Adams Express Company. He spent his life in their service and was a valued officer, being superintendent of the company at Philadelphia for many years. His death occurred in 1890.

His interest in his native town has shown itself in substantial manner, one memorial of his generosity being the well-cared for grounds of the North Meadows Cemetery, he having left a fund for its perpetual care.

Meantime the population of Greenfield had increased to over 2,500. There were over 100 well-built dwelling houses and four churches in Greenfield, besides mercantile establishments.

Field and Davis made many improvements and about 1849 extended the main brick building from the present Greenfield Savings Bank to Browning's Clothing Store, being the central portion of the present main structure. Where the express office now is, was an arched driveway to the stables and store entrances in the rear.

The rooms were large and some of those on the second floor used for offices.

Mr. Davis had his law office in one of these rooms and during the renovation of his room not long ago a card bearing his name was found in a crack back of the mantle.

The advent of the iron horse soon brought about the departure of the old stage coach and the passing of the river boats. With the coming of the railroads about 1846 passed the business of many an

old country tavern which is left deserted and crumbling to ruin.

Not so the famous old Mansion House. Greenfield became a railroad center, their lines crossing each other here as did the stage coach lines in former days and the town prospered.

She soon adjusted herself to the new order of things and a familiar sight on our streets for many years has been the Mansion House bus going to and fro to meet the trains and carry hotel guests. Mr. William Munn, the present porter, has held that position for the past thirty-two years, a long period of faithful service. He is familiarly called "Billy" Munn by his hosts of friends among the travelling public.

The railroad facilities in Greenfield are an important factor in the town's prosperity today.

Greenfield is becoming a center for automobiles, their routes crossing each other here as did the old stage coach routes a century ago.

Some of the bricks used in the construction of this addition to the Mansion House were Meriam bricks, made in the brick-yard on the Meriam place near the top of the hill on the road leading from Factory Village to Greenfield, now one of the farms belonging to the Peleg Adams estate.

During the construction of these additions the masons on the staging above could be heard calling, "Meriam brick," "Meriam brick." A passerby on the street inquired the meaning of this and was told that the Meriam bricks, being harder and superior to other bricks, but the supply being limited, were used about the windows and where good strong bricks were most needed. The unusual superior quality of the sand—sharp with quartz—from the nearby sand bank was one reason why the bricks manufactured by the Meriams were so superior..

I am told that these Meriam bricks were used in some parts of Allen block and some other structures in town.

With the coming of the railroads brick making was discontinued by Joel Meriam and his sons for they could not compete with other brick yards on the lines of railroads.

I. S. Tilton was hotel clerk for Mr. Field for a time. Mr. Field kept the house until June, 1855, and sold his interest to Henry W. Clapp who purchased Mr. Davis' interest the same year, subject to the leases of D. N. Carpenter, Robert Wiley and Joseph Beals. Mr. Carpenter was postmaster from 1845 to 1861. Robert Wiley had a tin store and Joseph Beals was dentist.

For two years the house was closed and in 1857 it was leased to J. M. Decker of Lawrence. Other tenants in the Mansion House block that same year (1857) were:

T. S. Wade, Apothecary, now the Savings Bank.

J. Day, Music, now Forbes' store.

D. H. Kellogg, Boots and shoes.

A. S. Fiske, Boots and shoes.

In 1858 M. W. White of Hartford leased the store which had been occupied by N. P. Eaton and continued in the dry goods business where is now the Savings Bank.

I find the name of Oren Wiley. He bought out Robert Wiley's tin store. Mr. Day sold out to Charles E. Graves who kept jewelry and music.

These were some of the leading citizens of a former generation who were carrying the responsibilities of life here half a century ago.

In 1858 the hotel was leased to H. B. Stevens and under the management of the family which continued several years, the house gained a very high reputation among the traveling community.

Mr. Henry Clapp made additions and improvements to the hotel and it always continued to be the leading hotel in this vicinity.

When the addition was put on by Field and Davis, they left an arch way to the stable, taking the place where the express office now is. This Mr. Clapp converted into an office and D. N. Carpenter kept the post office there. The driveway to the stable was made from Federal Street. He built the balcony with colonial pillars on the Federal Street side of the building. Formerly there was a bay window on the second floor, and an arched entrance from the sidewalk on Federal Street to the basement. There was also a balcony across the front of the building on Main Street.

Mr. Clapp purchased the Ripley House adjacent to the property and previously mentioned.

The Partenheimers and Schulers had occupied the buildings east of the Mansion House and Judge Leavitt's residence stood east of this—the Hovey place—now our Public Library.

In 1857 Mr. Clapp erected the stone monument at the corner of the sidewalk at the Mansion House. It is 16 feet long, 2 feet square at the base and 18 inches at the top, and is one of the land marks of the town. I have been told that an attempt was made to drill a hole lengthwise of this pillar for the purpose of inserting a

gas pipe, but the drill broke off inside the stone so the project was abandoned.

Mr. Clapp was for a time president of the Gas Company.

He fitted up a room in the Mansion House for a library and Miss Harriet B. Stone was librarian. The library remained in that room for twelve years until 1867 when by vote of the town it was removed to the south side of Armory Hall in the town building. Away back in Calvin Munn's time I find references to meetings of proprietors of the library at Munn's Hotel. Now our public library adjoins the Mansion House grounds on the east in a building of its own.

The room over D. H. Kellogg's shoe store in Mansion House block was very neatly and comfortably fitted up for the Young Men's Christian Association and opened in 1858. James S. Grinnell's law office and Dr. Joseph Beals dental office were also on the second floor. Other tenants in 1860 were Frank Park, billiard saloon, and Charles Keith, restaurant.

Much might be said of Mr. Clapp and his public spiritedness. He was a particular benefactor of this town by his planting of so many shade trees on Franklin and other streets.

Mr. William Coleman also has the credit and thanks of the community for many beautiful elms which he planted long ago and which bear witness of his taste and public spirit.

July 17, 1856, Henry W. Clapp, for himself and his heirs and assigns, bought the right from Fanny H. Moody to build a brick drain through her garden to the land of Mary Leavitt, and July 26, 1866 a deed was recorded giving Henry W. Clapp, his heirs and assigns, the right to use and maintain the tile drain through the property of H. E. Kenran on Federal Street.

After Mr. Clapp's death the Mansion House and the Ripley House properties were sold to Mr. George Doolittle in 1869.

We must now think of Greenfield as a town of nearly 3,500 inhabitants. It was a beautiful town with its well shaded streets. It had been fortunate in its citizens and families and was almost an ideal town. The hotel business had prospered and was increasing and there seemed a demand for more stores and a further increase of the hotel business.

Mr. Doolittle added to the extension easterly where the old Ripley house had formerly stood, that four-story extension, including the stores now occupied by F. R. Browning, Victor Cote and the Cutler Grocery, the present east portion of the block. This

part had a Mansard roof. The fourth floor contained rooms for the Republican Lodge of Masons. The first meeting of Republican Lodge of Masons was held in the hall of the old Munn Tavern January 28, 1795. The charter was signed by Paul Revere, then Grand Master of the Grand Lodge. In those days the meetings were opened at 6 o'clock and closed at 9 o'clock, the by-laws not permitting the brethren to tarry longer. The place of meeting was moved to a building on Federal Street. In 1858 Mr. Clapp finished off a hall for the lodge in the Mansion House which was occupied by them until the reconstruction of the house in 1873 by Mr. Doolittle when the new hall, with better accommodations, was provided, as I have mentioned. This old hall was converted into guest rooms for the hotel and recently when the old paper was being torn off in preparation for repapering the room, some of the old fresco work on the walls was brought to light. Some of the Masonic emblems were in evidence. The new hall was well lighted and beautifully decorated. There was also a banquet room, regalia room, kitchen and various lockers. These rooms were occupied by the Lodge until they outgrew them and about 1897 erected a building of their own—the Masonic building across Main Street.

Unfortunately Mr. Doolittle invested far beyond his means and the property was closed out under foreclosure by the Franklin Savings Institution January, 1877, and bid in by Mr. Peleg Adams.

Mr. Peleg Adams was born in Northbridge, Worcester County, Massachusetts, December 29, 1799. He was a son of Andrew and Betsy (Chapin) Adams, both of whom descended from old Colonial stock and the father of each having Revolutionary War records.

Peleg Adam's maternal grandmother was Deborah (Holbrook) Torrey Chapin; she was also the great, great grandmother of President William H. Taft. Both Peleg Adams and his illustrious relative, the President of the United States, were also direct descendants of the Puritan, Deacon Samuel Chapin, whose statue adorns the library grounds at Springfield, Massachusetts.

Andrew Adams and family removed to Greenfield in 1803, and purchased a farm in the eastern part of the town which farm has been in possession of the family ever since. Andrew Adams, the father of Peleg, was identified in many ways with the early history of Greenfield. He enjoyed the distinction of being the foreman of the first traverse jury in the first session of the Court held in Franklin County after its incorporation in 1811. This was the court of old Common Pleas.

Peleg Adams was a man of sterling character and kindly impulses. He was conservative and yet had the wisest judgment and sound practical knowledge of business affairs. He was honest and fair in all his dealings and also of great influence in town affairs. He served as selectman and assessor several terms and also held other town offices. He was one of the most prominent farmers and drovers in this section.

Mr. Adams expended much money in additions and improvements to the hotel, making it one of the finest in New England—something far beyond the usual country hotel—an establisment that overshadowed many metropolitan hotels of far greater pretentions and wide repute.

I have spoken of the gable roof of the three-story old part of the hotel, built by Mr. Newton and the Mansard roof of the east portion built by Mr. Doolittle. Mr. Adams raised the old portion increasing the height of the rooms on the second and third floors and added a fourth story with Mansard roof to correspond to the new part, greatly improving both the exterior and interior attractiveness of the structure. By this arrangement the windows on each story were uniform in height. Prior to this those in the old part had been lower, for the old rooms were not as high studded as those in the new part.

The thick brick walls which had served as the exterior walls on the east end of the building before the extensions were made by Mr. Davis and Mr. Doolittle, now serve as fire walls inside the building, dividing the main building into three parts. Heavy metal covered doors in these walls can be closed in the corridors thus entirely separating each of these portions of the building from the others in case of fire, making it practically fire proof.

Mr. Adams built the three-story brick ell on Federal Street, 82 x 38 feet with two-story ell in the rear 60 x 28 feet. The second story of this ell contains a dining room 70 x 38 feet. There are no obstructing pillars to support the 14 foot ceiling, a feature giving the spacious room unusual beauty and advantages. The third floor of the ell contains guest chambers.

There are about 100 rooms in the house.

"Uncle Peleg" as he was known to his hosts of friends, also installed in the house one of the first passenger elevators in this vicinity. It was an Otis hydraulic elevator. Electric bells substituted the old fashioned pull bells. He built a vault for each of the banks, Greenfield Savings Bank and Packard National Bank.

He took especial pride in making the building first class and adding every convenience and improvement that could be wisely suggested. The equipment which was of the best, displayed rare fore-sight and good judgment.

He built the substantial brick barn about 100 feet long.

The old ell which had been superseded by the new structure was utilized for other purposes. One section was moved to the rear of the hotel yard and is now the "Cottage" occupied by some of the hotel employees. Two other sections were moved to Federal and Maple streets and converted into dwelling houses.

Electric lights superseded gas for lighting the rooms. Prior to the introduction of illuminating gas in 1860 the old fashioned methods of lighting were used and I fancy it was the dim light of a tallow dip by which some hasty toilets were made in days gone by when travelers were aroused from their slumbers to make ready for the stage leaving the old village at 3 A. M. for Boston or Albany, or to go via the Phoenix line which left at 2 A. M.

The improved method of heating was by steam, the wood and coal stoves being discarded. Some of the old fashioned fire places have been bricked up and a few have been converted into modern grates, giving a cherry homelike appearance to the rooms.

Many of the rooms are unusually large, a feature not found in many modern hotels.

In 1877 Mr. Adams leased the hotel to Mr. G. T. C. Holden of Hudson, Massachusetts, a man who had had wide experience in the hotel business. He conducted the hotel very successfully and again the house was fortunate in having such a man for hotel proprietor. Mrs. Holden was a woman of pleasing personality and made many friends during their eight years' stay in Greenfield.

In 1885 Mr. Barry succeeded Mr. Holden and conducted the hotel for a few months and then it was leased to Thompson and Schoff. Mr. Thompson soon sold his interest to Alfred Schoff. The house sustained the good reputation gained for it many years since and the citizens of the town were proud to hear it well spoken of by the traveling public.

To reminisce a little: Peleg Adams was 77 years old when in 1877 he purchased the Mansion House. He drew up a deed of the property (to be recorded after his death) giving it in equal shares to his son, John A. Adams, and his son's wife, Charlotte E. Adams. This deed was never recorded, for December 3, 1880, John Adams was stricken with paralysis and died a few hours later.

The death of his only son was a great shock to the father, Peleg Adams, but he bore the affliction with the same fortitude which had characterized the lifetime of the man. Death had been a frequent visitor to his household, claiming two wives and four daughters, two of the daughters just entering womanhood and the other two younger.

Another deed was drawn up in three names, his son's widow and their two daughters, his only grandchildren.

I have stated the consideration mentionel in some of the early deeds. The consideration in this was of "love and affection which I bear my daughter-in-law, Charlotte E. Adams, and my grandchildren, Ruth C. Adams and Elizabeth L. Adams, the widow and children of my late son, John A. Adams." It was something more than an inheritance.

Grandpa Adams died September, 1887.

Memories cluster around the dear old Mansion House and the owners have endeavored to make the improvements which have been necessary to keep up the high standard of the house. Mrs. Adams was always interested in the welfare of the house. Mrs. Adams and her daughters continued to own the property until the death of the mother, April 21, 1909, when the two daughters became the sole owners.

The hotel has been in the Adams family 35 years, a longer period than that of any other name, unless it may be in the olden days of Corse ownership when it was not strictly a hotel.

Alfred Schoff continued to run the house until it was leased to William E. Wood in 1896. Mr. Wood was one of the best known hotel keepers in the East and was a natural landlord. The Mansion House, famous in memory, has always been fortunate in its proprietors and under the management of W. E. Wood new laurels and new popularity were gained for both the house and for Mr. Wood. He was a man of many friends.

The opening of the hotel, or housewarming, June, 1896, was a brilliant social event in Greenfield. The affair was under the patronage of leading citizens of the town. Upwards of 1,000 invitations were sent out and the entire house was thrown open to the public that evening. The merry dancers took possession of the spacious dining room, which has been the scene of so many banquets and social events during its history.

Mr. Wood was also a popular caterer. He conducted the hotel for a longer period than any other lessee has ever done.

Mr. Arthur Moore was a faithful hotel clerk for the long period of twenty-eight years until two years ago when he left to make his home in California, much to the regret of his many friends, among the traveling public with whom he was very popular, as well as his friends here in Greenfield.

Mr. W. E. Wood died September, 1910. His widow, Mrs. Alice G. Wood, by her intimate knowledge of her husband's methods of conducting the hotel business, seemed well fitted to continue the business and she now holds a lease of the house; and with an able force of assistants she conducts the hotel. Mrs. Wood is especially fortunate in having the services of Mr. Herman L. Wood as manager. He has been an efficient employee at the hotel for many years and by his close association with the business has an intimate knoweldge of every detail of hotel business.

The famous old Mansion House has always been considered the center for measuring distances to outlying points. Distances to Greenfield as stated from other towns and on country guide boards are measured to the Mansion House Corner. The following is taken from a clipping 75 years old:

A very ornamental Guide Post has just been erected around the thrifty young elm at the corner of Smead's Hotel.

A poetic friend on passing it the other day took out his pencil and scribbled the following lines addressed to the gentleman by whose agency the work has been done.

To the Gazette and Mercury,
To H. W. Clapp, Esq.

Extempore, on passing the ornamental guide post recently erected by him near Smead's Hotel.

A stranger, sir, has thought to write
His unprovoked opinion;
For in this land of law and light,
The mind is no one's minion.

While wondrous things are going on,
Improvements far and near;
A certain public minded one
Is doing something here.

That something is of such a kind
As all good people need;
So plain that all except the blind
E'en as they run may read.

And while, at once, we mark with pride
Your village eye attractor
The traveler shall own his guide
A public benefactor.

May 12, 1838.

Names of some of the tenants in stores and offices in Mansion House block prior to the time it came into possession of Mrs. Adams and daughters in 1889 and which I have not mentioned, are as follows:

A. T. Thayer who sold to W. H. Sanborn and Company.

Simon Sellers.

Thomas V. Hall, Cash Grocery, succeeded by

C. T. Walcott about 1877 who, after about two years sold to L. L. Luey.

Snyder had a barber shop where the Greenfield News Company is, and later C. M. Moody occupied the same room for a book store.

S. P. Breck & Son, Dry Goods, called N. Y. Cash Store.

Upham and Fletcher had the Restaurant sold to Mr. Barber who was succeeded by H. Potter.

J. L. Lyons, Furniture warehouse.

Silsby had Dry Goods Store.

C. O. Haley, barber, was succeeded by Philip Partenheimer.

Robbins sold clothing in the extreme east store.

William Wunsch, millinery.

Mr. Pratt, Internal Revenue office.

Miss Phila Wrisley had millinery parlors in one of the front rooms on second floor and Miss Mary Hicks had dressmaking parlors. She was succeeded by Miss A. Gerrett.

One of the oldest signs over the doors has been that of J. Beals, dentist, where it hung about sixty years. Dr. Joseph Beals came into the block in 1852. One of the first sets of teeth which he made in Greenfield was for Mrs. John Forbes, mother of our townsman, C. P. Forbes. The plate was of solid gold and the price $100. Later Dr. Beals' sons, Drs. Frank and Herbert Beals, were associated with him and they were the best known dentists in the Connecticut Valley and had a reputation for the best workmanship. After Dr. Joseph Beals' death his son, Dr. Frank Beals, continued dentistry until his decease in 1897. Dr. J. E. Cornell who had been associated with the latter continued at the old stand until 1911.

The occupants of the corner store were Josiah Day who was in business in 1858.

Charles Graves, then Noah Moody.

The next sign over the door was Forbes and Foster, Jewelers.

Mr. Forbes bought out his partner and the Forbes name has had the honor to remain there since December, 1865.

The livery stable has always been kept by the proprietor of the hotel until it was rented to Mr. John Shaw when Mr. Schoff was conducting the hotel. He sold out to Samuel B. Payne and Son who conducted the business for ten years until 1906 when Mr. Frank H. Cheever leased the livery stable. After two years he sold to Mr. Roger Rourke who is one of the best known horse men in the vicinity.

For thirty-six years Mr. Philip Partenheimer has been the barber at the hotel. Such a long term is proof that he has served the public well.

Now taking the stores in order from 1889 C. P. Forbes has occupied the first store. Greenfield Savings Bank has occupied their rooms continuously.

The Packard National Bank occupied the next room until its failure in 1904. Since then the American Express Company have been quartered there.

After the post office vacated the next store in 1896 Miss M. A. O'Brien occupied it for millinery store until the Greenfield News Company came in 1911. Mr. E. A. Cowan, one of the owners, conducts the very prosperous business.

Mr. L. A. Luey succeeded his father in the grocery business in the next store east and remained there until 1898 when he went into the wholesale grocery business. He sold out to H. G. Goodell & Co., who, the next year, sold to W. A. Brown & Co., who conducted the business a few months and sold to A. J. Pullen, December, 1899. The next year F. W. Strong owned the grocery store and October, 1901, Clark & Barlow bought him out, and they carried on the grocery business until July, 1902.

Soon the Greenfield Fruit Company opened a Fruit Store, which, under the management of Arrighi Brothers does a flourishing business.

Now we come to the name Browning over the door of the next store and it has been there since 1872. This is another example of a long and prosperous business made possible by the honest and upright business dealings of the founder of this clothing store,

Anson Browning. He bought out Mr. Robbins, who had a clothing store in the extreme east store in the block. A few years before his death Mr. Browning took into partnership his son, F. R. Browning. Ernest R. Alexander was associated with him a few years, but now the son, Fred R. Browning, conducts the business.

The next store east was occupied by the Interstate Mortgage & Trust Company for a few years and then leased to W. E. Wood for a general office in connection with his hotel business and he sublet desk room to several people during his tenancy. When he removed his office to another part of the building Victor Cote took the store for a tailoring establishment.

The extreme east store in the block was occupied by Lyons Bros., succeeded by Charles E. Lyons.

Montague and Son had a clothing store there from 1894 to 1895.

Will M. Burt had a meat and provision store for three years, then it became the Cash Grocery and Market Co., managed by William F. Marsh and later by George W. Smith for several years.

In 1904 Mr. Nahum Cutler took the store and opened it as the Cutler Grocery.

The list of tenants during all these years is a long one, but it contains the names of many of the leading and most successful business men of the times and representative men of our fine old town of Greenfield.

This hotel was once shadowed by stately trees which are not. The majestic trees that adorn these beautiful streets are the gifts of a generation that has passed away and we should recognize our large responsibility to other communities and to mankind at large to preserve and increase so far as possible, that heritage of beauty of which we are the present possessors. Oh! the pity of it that any trees should have been felled.

My grandfather mourned the loss of some of these beautiful elms in front of the Mansion House during the period of his ten years' ownership of the property from 1877. They were said to be killed by escaping gas. Three other young elms substituted these on Main Street but it will require years before they will attain the size of those which were sacrificed about thirty years ago.

Four trees stood on Federal Street opposite the Mansion House, two elms and two horse-chestnuts, but within a few weeks these four trees and several others on Federal Street were felled by the tree warden of the town in spite of the strong protest of many of our leading citizens.

In looking over a scrap book which has recently been presented to this Historical Society by Rev. C. C. Carpenter of Andover, Massachusetts, I noticed a clipping from "Gazette and Courier," July, 1826, referring to a tree near this hotel, entitled:

The Beautiful Elm near Newton's Hotel.

This graceful elm a while shall stay,
And proudly yield a fragrant shade
To those, who from the sun's bright rays,
Shall often court its genial aid.

Awhile its sunny top shall wave
To the bright morning's gentle breeze;
And bear, unhurt, the evening gale
That fierce its spreading branches seize.

A while the traveller shall admire
Its beauties, and its happy power,
And 'neath its grateful shade desire
To spend in social chat an hour.

Though now it seems to scorn the rage
Of furious storms; Time, in its course,
Shall make its branches stiff with age,
Sport for the rude wind's wintry force.

Its form will slowly fade away,
As shadows of the morn grow less,
While Boreas sings its funeral lay,
In notes of seeming plaintiveness.

Thus man can bear misfortune's darts,
In the bright morning of his days;
In age, sorrow will break his heart,
And bear him slowly to the grave.

Advena.

This shows us the reverence which the people who were on the stage nearly a century ago had for trees and for this we call them blessed.

I am told there was also a beautiful elm west of the sidewalk on Federal Street. There was space enough for a team to drive between the curbing of the sidewalk and the tree. This was within the memory of some of our older inhabitants of the town, and the tree was removed not many years ago.

Hotel keepers of today may be interested to know the hotel rates in old Revolutionary days. These prices were fixed by a committee in 1776:

Dinners at taverns of boiled meat or equivalent, 8d;

Suppers or breakfasts of tea, coffee or chocolate, 8d;

Lodgings (soldiers sleeping on the floor not to be considered such), 4d.

Flip or toddy made with N. E. Rum, 9d a mug.

Willard's History of Greenfield is authority for these prices.

This history has been of great assistance to me in preparing this paper.

A special help and resource has been Thompson's History of Greenfield—that very valuable work.

Bound volumes of newspapers "Franklin Democrat" which were presented to the Greenfield Public Library by Miss Jame Lamb contained interesting data as have also the old "Gazette and Couriers" and "Greenfield Recorders." Also old deeds at the Registry of Deeds.

I have availed myself of the privilege of looking over old books and papers which have been presented to this Historical Society and have found the scrap books from Rev. C. C. Carpenter especially helpful and I wish to thank all who have been of assistance.

In one of these scrap books I found an interesting article by Daniel Foster describing a series of six cotillion parties which were held at Smead's Tavern in 1836. Expenses per night for use of hall and side rooms $3. This was the hall which extended across the entire Federal Street end of the hotel. Music $2, prompting $1 and other prices accordingly. "Uncle" Tom Rockward, so-called, "worked" the violin and Liberty Lamb was prompter.

This famous Mansion House has sheltered many noted guests, but this paper is already so long that I will mention only one of the most noted foreign personages.

Wu Ting Fang, minister of the Chinese Empire, one of the most interesting diplomatic representatives of the Oriental nations, was here in 1890. He wrote his autograph for Mr. Arthur Moore, the hotel clerk who has a collection ranging from Gladstone to later day celebrities.

If the old walls of the house could speak what interesting stories they might tell of bygone days. Amid the cheerful warmth of the hotel office how much of long forgotten politics has been discussed. Every presidential election has been speculated upon. George Washington was chosen President and John Adams, Vice-President, during Caleb Alvord's time and so on down the line. Political banners have floated across Main Street to Allen's block and when

on gala days and the National holiday we see the stars and stripes floating from the building, do we stop to realize that the very men themselves who ran this hotel risked their lives in battles and helped to win our independence?

From this corner the Minute Men could be seen marching off towards Lexington. We all know the story.

Days of peace followed.

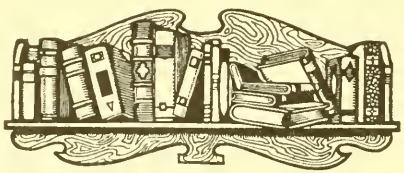
The Mansion House corner has looked out upon all sorts of scenes—processions festive and gay and those mournful and sad. And all sorts of gatherings and parades. The old fashioned musters and cavalry drills were interesting and exciting.

Then came more stirring times—the days of 1860, followed by real war. One of the most impressive scenes ever witnessed from this corner was when the Tenth Massachusetts Regiment was lined up Main Street ready to march off to the Civil War and a multitude of citizens had gathered to bid their soldier friends good-bye. The venerable Rev. Amariah Chandler, with head uncovered and his white locks waving in the breeze, stood up in an express wagon on Federal Street, facing Main, and offered prayer.

Greenfield did her share during the Civil War. The ladies of the village met frequently at the Mansion House to sew for the soldiers. *Some* of the boys came back and were banqueted at the Mansion House.

From this corner we look across the street to the soldiers' monument on the common. *That* tells a *part* of the story.

Truly the Mansion House may be proud to look back to the "honor and glory of a noble ancestry."



CHAPTER IX

TOWN OF DEERFIELD

Deerfield is the mother town, and by far the oldest town within the county, and about as old as any portion of Massachusetts. Two and one-half centuries it lay upon the west bank of "ye Great River Quinneticot," its shore line being about twenty miles long. Its south line was the northern boundary of the Quonquot purchase by Hatfield, running seven miles westward. The north and west bounds were each thirteen miles long. At first this territory comprised about one hundred and thirty square miles, but it has been reduced from time to time, by the cutting off of various towns including Greenfield, Gill, Conway, Shelburne and a part of Whately until it now only contains thirty-six square miles. Its present bounds are Greenfield on the north; Whately and Conway on the south; Montague and Sunderland on the east; Shelburne and Conway on the west. Of its natural features it may be said that along the bank of the Connecticut lies a fertile meadow, one hundred rods in width nearly the entire length of the town; from this to the west, rises a range of hills from one to two miles in width, running from Sugar-Loaf on the south to the Greenfield line, rising about half way to a height of several hundred feet. From the foot of this range a plain or valley spreads westward, from one to two miles in width. Here the "Dedham Grant," was laid out, and here are located the famous "Deerfield Meadows," and the "Old Street." These meadows are composed of a rich alluvial deposit of a rather modern geological formation. Among the numerous smaller streams should be named Bloody Brook, Bijah's, Roaring, Parsons, Taylors, Carter's Land, Sheldon's, Field's, Hoyt's Mill, and Turkey-Bin. The ponds include Broughton's, Beaman's, Pine Hill, Round, and Old River Pond.

Pioneer Settlement—The Dedham Grant figures in this settlement. The converting of the Indians in this section by that fearless and noble apostle Eliot, who was engaged to teach the Bible, but soon found little could be accomplished without the aid of true civilization. Hence it was that he asked certain grants of land on which he might collect the savages and form a community and keep them together. So it was that in 1651 the General Court

authorized him to lay out a tract of two thousand acres at Natick and there he founded a settlement of Indians. It is thought this tract fell within the bounds of Dedham, and a long controversy followed in regard to the compensation for that town. At length in June, 1663, the General Court ordered that "for a final issue of the case between Dedham and Natick, the Court judgeth meete to grant Dedham eight thousand acres of land in any convenient place or places, not exceeding two, where it can be found free from grants, provided Dedham accept this offer." The terms being satisfactory to Dedham, the General Court, in October, 1663, appointed Ens. John Everard and Jonathan Danforth a committee to lay out the grant. In November, 1664, a suitable place had been obtained by the committee, the same being "about twelve or fourteen miles above Hadly." In March, 1664, it was finally agreed that Lieutenant Joshua Fisher, Edward Richards, Anthony Fisher, Jr., and Timothy Dwite should lay out the grant, and should depart on that mission "the day after election." This committee came to Pocumtuck, located and surveyed the lands, returning a detailed plan, giving courses, and distances, to the Court in May, 1665.

Having now the grant, it devolved upon the whites to purchase the lands from the Indians, so June 4, 1666, two men were appointed to employ "the Worshipful Pynchon to buy the Indians' title in 8,000 acres."

The 8,000 acre grant was made to the "Proprietors of Dedham," and their individual rights in the grant was the same as that by which they held shares in the common land in Dedham. This latter was held in 523 shares, called "Cow-commons," and the same rule applied to the newly acquired territory. May 23, 1670, the proprietors met and drew lots for the location of their respective rights. As it finally stood the owners were reduced to but thirty-one holding from three to sixty cow-commons each. Then soon followed the laying out of highways and the selection of land for a church or meeting-house, then ever uppermost in the minds of those early-time settlers.

Descriptive of the first settlers a former writer has well said: "This hardy yeomanry, some of them born in England and well on in years, all seeking a permanent home for wife and children in the New World, appear to have lived here in quiet contentment. Peace and plenty smiled upon them. The rich alluvial meadow was easy of cultivation. The virgin soil yielded abundant harvests of wheat, peas, rye, Indian corn, beans and flax. The men became

skilled in woodcraft, and the forests afforded an abundance of game, while the waters teemed with fish. Highways were built, the common field enclosed with a substantial fence to protect their crops from their flocks and herds, which roamed in the surrounding woods. A minister of their own choice was going out and in before them, and the young colony seemed firmly established on an enduring foundation of prosperity. The dark cloud looming in the distance was unobserved or unnoticed. The settlers had lived on the most friendly terms with the few Indians with whom they came in contact, and had no doubt of their fidelity. The news of the outbreak in far-off Plymouth brought no fears to them. None dreamed of the devastation and war which was so soon to be sent upon their homes.

Among the families of note in those early days there were the Carters, Allens, Barnards, Barsham, Bartholomew, Daniels, Fields, Sampson, Gillett, Harrenton, Roberts, Hinsdale, Plympton, Sutlieff, Smead, Weld, Weller, and Rev. Samuel Mather. A biographical record of these families alone would fill a large, interesting volume. The above were all here prior to King Philip's War.

Later and permanent settlers were inclusive of these: William Arms, John and Edward Allen, John Catlin, Thomas and John French, Daniel Belding, Joseph Barnard, Hannah Beaman, John Hawks, David Hoyt, Godfrey Nims, John Severance, John Sheldon, the Stebbins families, Jonathan Wells, and others whose descendants are still numerous in New England.

King Philip's War—The Indians hereabouts were friendly and known as the Pocumtucks and were the tribe which Missionary Eliot had much faith in. For this reason, the news of the outbreak at Swansea caused no alarm here. This home, friendly tribe was scattered over the valley as far as the Connecticut line, on the best of terms with the whites. Their intercourse was intimate and kindly, although they never mingled as equals or had sympathies in common. The inferior race was fully aware of this fact, but realized that contact with the whites had been a great advantage to them. The iron age had taken the place of the stone age with these Indians. The whites had supplied them with guns and powder by which game might the easier be obtained. Also these "friendly" Indians looked to the English to protect them from the bloodthirsty Mohawk Indians of the West. On the other hand, the dishonest Indian traders among white men had sold the In-

dians whisky, and cheated them while under the influence of it. The white man's stock had trampled the Indian's crop and they had been all too slow in paying for damages. These things, of course, rankled in their breasts, and came uppermost when artful emissaries of Philip appeared with presents of goods pillaged from the English, exciting their natural love of revenge and their cupidity. It is not surprising that these children of the forest wilderness joined that wily chieftain to gratify these feelings.

Hon. George Sheldon's historical account of Deerfield has the following on Philip's War: On the appearance of Philip in the Nipmuck country, the burning of Brookfield, August 2, 1675, the alarm became general in the Connecticut Valley but no suspicion was felt of the fidelity of the river Indians, and they were even employed as soldiers against the hostile Nipmucks. Here, however, their treachery was exposed by the Mohicans in the same service, and became so apparent that an attempt was made to disarm a motley collection gathered in a fort at Nonotuck. These, taking the alarm, fled northward, pursued by Captains Beers and Lothrop, with one hundred soldiers. Still intending a parley with the fugitives, the troops marched with little or no precaution, and when they had reached a point about eighty rods south of Wequamps were suddenly fired upon by the savages from an ambush in the swamp on their right. The English covering themselves with trees, Indian fashion, fought for three hours, when the enemy retreated. Seven whites were killed—one shot in the back by his fellows—and two mortally wounded. The Indians reported a lose of twenty-six. This was August, 1675, and was the first conflict between the English and Indians in the Connecticut Valley. (For the other engagements of this conflict, see chapter on King Philip's War, page 35 *et seq.*)

Town Organization—December 17, 1686, a town organization was effected by the choice of William Smead, Joshua Pumry, John Sheldon, Benoni Stebbins, Benjamin Hastings, and Thomas French. These served as first Selectmen. In June of the last named year John Williams was invited to become their minister. After twenty-eight months trial as a preacher Rev. Williams was ordained and settled as permanent pastor. The church was really organized October 17, 1688. For a time the community was free from Indian raids, although Schenectady was burned by the enemy in February, 1690. This aroused the people here and within ten days a fortifica-

tion was made around the meeting-house hill by a stockade. To do this over two hundred rods of three to four feet trench had to be dug in the frozen ground. Also four to five thousand sticks or stockade timbers had to be cut and set.

Queen Anne's War—The most memorable event in the history of this town was the attack by French and Indians in February, 1703-04. The Abenakis of Maine had complained to the French Governor of English aggression and asked speedy redress. At once De Vaudreuil organized an expedition of two hundred men to the valley. When the place was taken it was given over to the Indians for fire and slaughter. The palisades at this time inclosed fifteen acres on Meeting-House Hill, the north line being the brick meeting-house. The population was about 250, with fifteen garrisoned soldiers quartered among the families. The snow lay fully three feet deep, was drifted against the stockade and was badly crusted. Hertel de Rouville, commander of the French forces, arrived at Petty's Plain at night of February 28, where his men deposited their packs and made ready for the attack. An hour before day the next morning the entire army stole silently across the meadows, and on the drifted snow over the stockades, and scattered among the houses. When they were discovered by the watch he discharged his musket and cried "Arm, Arm!" This was the signal for the assault. Doors and windows were broken down, men, women and children dragged from their beds, murdered in cold blood, or bound as captives. The main body of the French stood to their arms, firing upon the houses and killing all who resisted, shooting the cattle and sheep, while detached parties were securing provisions, drink and clothing. After over-running the fort, the picketed house of Captain Wells, who lived on the Fogg lot, was fiercely assaulted, but successfully defended. The house of Ens. John Sheldon, more strongly built than others, resisted the first attack. With their hatchets the enemy soon cut holes through the walls and the front door. Firing at random through this, Mrs. Sheldon was killed. Entrance was finally made at the back door, left open by a lad in his fright. In this house the captives were collected. It was here that the wife of John Catlin performed an act of Christian charity which secured her release. A French officer, severely wounded, was brought in and laid upon the floor in their midst; in great distress, he called for water. Mrs. Catlin tenderly supplied his wants. When remonstrated with

by her friends, she repeated: "If thine enemy hunger feed him; if he thirst give him water to drink." This house which stood until 1848, was known far and near as the "Old Indian House."

With the last named fight and that which soon followed, there were three Frenchman and thirty savages killed; de Rouville retreated the first night, by the Indian path, to the upper part of Greenfield Meadows. The next morning Mrs. Williams was murdered near the foot of Leyden Glen. Fifty-two of the dead were buried in one common grave, March 2d, while Mrs. Williams was buried elsewhere. The captives numbered 112; two escaped the same day; eight were murdered before leaving the valley and twelve more perished before Canada was reached.

Other French and Indian wars followed, but other historical works have fully covered the horrors of such conflicts.

Division of the Town—In 1743 the inhabitants of Green River began to move for a division of the town, "that they may be set off into a separate municipality, by the name of Cheapside," and in November asked by petition to the town that the dividing line be Deerfield River, from its mouth to Sheldon's Brook; thence up that brook west to the seven mile line. The town refused. After the peace of 1748 the question again came up. The old town was willing to divide, the boundary to be the north line of the old Dedham 8,000-acre grant. Greenfield insisted on the river and brook as before. This matter was finally, in 1753, left to a committee of three from towns below, who reported April 10, that the south boundary should be the 8,000-acre line, the west to include one tier of lots beyond the seven mile line. More trouble grew out of the disposition of the sequestered lands in Cheapside, with contests at home, in the legislature, and civil courts, which were not settled until 1772. Greenfield, still coveting Cheapside, has made severe legislative struggles for its annexation, but the mother town has always successfully defended the integrity of the ancient boundary, until recent years when the present boundaries were established. Cheapfield, formerly a part of Deerfield, was annexed to Greenfield according to the records thus: "On the 2d of May, 1896, that portion of Deerfield that was known as Cheapside, became a part of Greenfield and the contentions made by our fathers one hundred and fifty years before, that no other disposition of this territory could be rightly made, was fully justified. Deerfield had made a strenuous fight, sometimes on lines which might be con-

sidered a little dubious in fairness but the old precept had one more illustration that 'nothing is fully settled until justly settled'."

In 1759 a controversy arose with Hatfield about the boundary between the towns, which was unsettled and caused much trouble until 1766, when it was fixed to start from the place where the Pocumtuck path crossed the Weekioannuck brook and run westward parallel to the south line of Hatfield.

It was not until the conquest of Canada that men began to locate in "Deerfield Southwest," but the district filled up very rapidly then and in 1767 Conway was set off as a town. "Deerfield Northwest" was inhabited before the last French war, but no permanent settlement was made until 1762. A thriving colony soon grew up on her foothills, and Shelburne became independent of the mother town in 1769. Gill, set off from Greenfield in 1793 was the youngest daughter of old Pocumtuck.

Early Churches And Those of Today—The first preaching at Pocumtuck was by Rev. Samuel Mather, in 1673. He graduated at Harvard in 1671. Next to him came, as a permanent minister, Rev. John Williams in 1686. His salary was first sixty pounds but later made eighty pounds. He was one of nature's true noblemen. He passed from earth June 12, 1729.

In October, 1838, the First Congregational Society organized a new body under the title of the "Orthodox Society." A church of the seceders had been formed in June, 1835. In 1838 a meeting-house was built on Memorial Lane.

Previous to Philip's War the people worshiped in the garrisoned houses, and made no attempt, so far as we know, to build a meeting-house. The first erected was in 1684; doubtless a log building, daubed with clay and the roof thatched. In 1694 the town voted to build a new meeting-house on Meeting-House Hill. The architectural style of the old-time churches was indeed a curiosity, as viewed by modern ideas.

The Second Orthodox Congregational Church was organized at Bloody Brook in June, 1818. At one time President Timothy Dwight preached here, who at a later date was well known as connected with Yale College.

What was styled the Monument Church was organized as an offshoot of the old Second Church; it was built in 1849-50.

The Methodist Episcopal church was formed in 1843. The Baptist church of Shelburne and Deerfield was organized in 1787. The

Roman Catholic Church at South Deerfield was organized in 1871.

Schools and Academy—The first school noticed in the history of this town was the one being kept by Mrs. Hannah Beaman on her own homelot in 1694. In her will dated 1723, Mrs. Beaman left her lands to the town for a school fund. In 1698 a school house was erected seven feet high, by ground size of 21 by 18 feet. Each head of a family was to pay for the support of schools, whether their children attended or not. In 1700, the first school committee was John Catlin, John Hawks, and John Stebbins. In 1717 the school house was sold to Joseph Alexander for five pounds Sterling. In 1722 a master was engaged to teach reading, writing, and ciphering. In 1737 a school house was built and in 1732 a school-dame was employed for Green River, and a schoolmaster in 1740. In 1748 Betty Childs was employed as a teacher. In 1749 an evening school was being taught and in 1750 school was taught the year round. In 1760, a schoolhouse was built south of Meeting-House Hill—Seth Phelps teacher. Another schoolhouse was built at Bloody Brook. Before the close of the Revolution the principal teachers were David Dickinson, Daniel Cooley, Samuel Barnard, Daniel Fish, Elihu Ashley. Gradually houses for school districts were supplied all over the town. In 1787 fifteen citizens of the town, feeling the need of instruction of a higher grade, organized a company, and built a school-house on the spot where later Philo Munn's shop stood. Each share represented two scholarships, the school could not exceed thirty scholars. Freegrace Reynolds, a graduate of Yale, was employed as teacher.

Deerfield Academy—An act establishing this institution was approved by Governor Adams, March 21, 1797. The same year $2,700 was raised by suscription, in sums from $20 to $100 for the building fund. The building was erected 28 by 60 feet, of brick, two stories—in 1798, and dedicated January 1, 1799. This academy at once took rank among the best in the land. The attendance the first year was 292, from forty-one different towns. In 1859 this academy was merged into the high school. In 1878 its funds were transferred to the trustees of Deerfield Academy and Dickinson High School, to be used in connection with the bequest of Mrs. Esther Dickinson. In 1924 an adjustment of these funds was made between Deerfield as a town and the academy. A high school was established at South Deerfield in 1860.

At no time within more than a century and a half has there been

a period when the youth of this town could not obtain a good education here. Good schools and excellent instructors have always been the rule, and the expense has been cheerfully paid by the taxpayers. The public libraries have been of great help and have included these: Before 1800 there was what was termed an agricultural library and another devoted to military science. Soon after came a Union Library, which appears to have absorbed all others. After a time this was dissolved and one was founded known as a "Social Library," containing 4,000 volumes in 1830. After 1840 the Deerfield Reading Association with 2,000 books was formed. In the eighties was established the Town Library, through the bequests of Mrs. Dickinson and still continues to be used and added to annually. Fifty-five years ago the old Academy building was purchased by the Pocumtuck Memorial Association and it was turned into a museum for old-time relics.

What is known as the Deerfield Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association was chartered by the Legislature in May, 1870, for the purpose as herein stated: "Collect and preserve such memorials, books, records, papers, curiosities, as may tend to illustrate and perpetuate the history of the early settlers of this region and of the race which vanished before them, and the erection of a memorial hall in which such collections can be securely deposited."

The first officers of this association were: George Sheldon, president; Josiah D. Canning of Gill, James M. Crafts of Whately, vice-presidents; Nathaniel Hitchcock, recording secretary; Rev. Robert Crawford, of Deerfield, corresponding secretary; Nathaniel Hitchcock, treasurer. In 1878 the old Deerfield Academy, a three-story brick building, erected about 1798 came into the hands of the association. In 1880 the association commenced to make collections of memorials which increased year by year until it has in this country no rival in its chosen field. The first catalog was printed in 1886. The collection includes rare and original deeds, manuscript titles, and interesting, valuable historical documents, etc. The Indian graves in the surrounding section have been drawn upon for many Indian relics such as tools, utensils, ensigns, ornaments, arrow-points, axes, spears, knives, tomahawk heads, hammers, drills, gouges, bark peelers, rubbing stones, fleshers, skin dressers, hoes, corn mills, pestles, spinning bobs, ear ornaments, totems, pipes, bits of clay pottery and the "Old Indian House" door which is a great attraction to visitors. The Indian Room in this museum has thousands of articles connected with

Indian history. Perhaps the strongest magnet in this room is the "Indian House Door." It is thought that at no point in New England is there a single relic that compares with this old battered door. There is nothing that so connects us with the real horrors of Indian warfare. The cuts made in this door by the savage Indians when the attack was made on the night of February 29, 1704, when this town was assaulted by 350 French and Indians under Hertel de Rouville, of French nobility, are still impressive.

The kitchen is another interesting department in this building, for here one sees all manner of pioneer utensils for domestic use; the many-shaped frying-pans, back-log, forestick; spider, skillet, spice-mill, pewter spoons, steel forks, lanterns, dash churns, tinder boxes, foot-stove.

Memorial Room is full of interesting tablets and portraits; also the more modern portraits of Vice-president Levi P. Morton, and Marshall Field.

Domestic Production Room is another place well worth a visit. Here one finds a large case of rare and ancient canes all with their history noted by cards attached thereto. Hats, knee breeches, wedding gowns, queer old bandboxes and unique floor rugs.

In another place on the second floor will be seen the old Academy Bell which so many years called together the pupils of "Old Deerfield Academy." The Needlework Room is a wonderland to the lady visitors to this Memorial Hall. The styles worn for the last two and a half centuries are here represented in attractive, impressive form. Other rooms are the Bed Room all fitted out as they had such rooms in the Colonial days. The Peabody Room, furnished by a descendant of John Peabody. There one sees a tall clock, a looking glass; high-back chair, rugs and handsome bed spreads. In the "Military Room" is to be seen the old flint-lock muskets, canteens, cartridge boxes, knapsacks, and scores of priceless relics of past wars of this and other lands.

The fireproof wing of this hall is a brick structure to the rear of the main building, was built a few years ago by bequests. Here is a Revolutionary Room filled with many rare objects and ample room remains for many more articles. The library is in the wing and is on the second floor. In contains 20,000 books and these have largely come down from libraries already named in this chapter. Another room is exclusively devoted to pictures and manuscripts. There are actually thousands of pieces of manuscript on exhibition here.

Industrial Interests of the Town—A former county history gives the following on early industries of Deerfield:

Agriculture has always been the leading industry of our population. The first settlers cultivated successfully wheat, Indian corn, barley, rye and oats. Flax was a crop essential to a livelihood, contributing largely to clothing and household stuff. Sheep-husbandry was equally necessary for the same ends. Both continued indispensable so long as cloth-making was a home industry. For more than a century barley malt was an article of traffic, and home-brewed beer a daily beverage. Tobacco was raised as early as 1694 and as a field crop about 1790, and it still continues to be successfully grown as a staple crop in Franklin county.

Previous to the reign of tobacco and onions, beef was king for several generations in the valley of the Connecticut. A man of standing was largely estimated by the number of his fat oxen. Under this dynasty Deerfield held many "Lords of the Valley" and a few princes of the realm. These were well known to the epicures of New York and Boston.

In the early days every man's house was a factory, and the family all operatives; the men made the plows, yokes, carts, drags, shovels, scythe snaths, rakes, forkes, flails, bowls, plates, household furniture, flax-brakes, corn-fans, and sometimes spinning wheels; the women carded, spun, wove, and made up their garments of linen, tow, linsey-woolsey, flannels and fulled cloth. "Arbs" furnished tea, and the maple their sugar. The people lived off the land; the blacksmith made the plow share, cart-irons, chains, axes, hoes, and scythes; the tanner furnished the leather; and the shoemaker made shoes, slippers, moccasins, and horse tackling. A few articles of prime necessity, like rum, iron, steel, brass and pewter utensils were imported. A division of labor obtained after a while, and a century ago we had handicraft-men in abundance which increased with our growth.

Lumber at first was sawed in saw-pits, corn pounded in mortars, or taken on horse-back to Hatfield to mill. In 1690 mills were established here.

Considerable business was done from 1745 to 1794 by Joseph Stebbins and Zadock Hawks, who owned tanneries on adjoining lots. Much of their stock was worked up by them into shoes and soldiers' accoutrements. The Hawks establishment was carried on by Zenas Hawks a generation longer. The Bloody Brook shop was carried on by Samuel D. Billings where he tanned leather until 1873. Pocket-books of every variety, almost, have been manufactured for many years at South Deerfield. In 1869 Charles Arms employed twenty-four hands with a product of $22,000; L. I. Eaton turned out $4,000; North & Mishow, $1,000 and other firms in proportion.

Before the advent of railroads, Cheapside being at the head of "fall-boat" navigation on the Pocumtuck, was a place of considerable trade. Goods were hauled by teams from here to Greenfield and the towns to the north and west. A cooper shop and an establishment for barrelling beef and a cabinet-shop were located here as well as other lesser industries.

Present Town Officers—Town clerk—Parker D. Martin; town

treasurer—John T. Manix; selectmen—Henry A. Wells, Robert W. Gorey and R. J. Decker; assessors—George L. Brown, Cyrus Brown, Elmer E. Hubbard; tax-collector—George N. Morse; town accountant—Herbert L. Childs; tree wardens—same as selectmen; pound-keeper—Paul Hawks; superintendent of schools—Andrew S. Thompson; school physician—W. G. Watt, M. D.

The records show the receipts of the town for 1924 to have been $389,048.84. The disbursements amounted to $347,549.91. Amount cash on hand December 31, 1924, $40,804.52.

The Village of South Deerfield, in 1920, had a population of 1,271. It has five churches—Congregational, Methodist and three Catholic. Its industries are limited to a flouring mill, a small machine shop, established in 1924, and the Arms Manufacturing Company where leather goods including pocket-books are made. Usually about seventy-five persons are employed. The village Park has a beautiful rustic granite monument with two handsome bronze tablets attached, commemorative of the soldiers who lost their lives in the World War.

The only fraternal lodge is the Improved Order of Red Men. There are three good public school buildings.

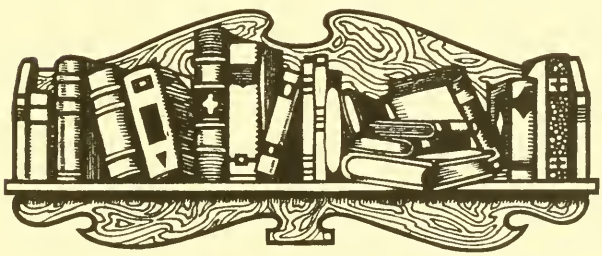
The banking of the village and community is by the Produce National Bank, established March, 1906, and its present officers are: President—Charles F.. Clark; vice-president—James B. Bridges; Cashier—W. F. Gorey; assistant cashier—L. J. Taplin. The statement issued December 4, 1924, gave the institution as having resources and liabilities amounting to $754,592.34. The capital stock is $50,000; surplus fund, $50,000. At present it has deposits amounting to $560,275.47.

The village has a warehouse and offices for the South Deerfield Tobacco and Onion Produce Company.

The public library of South Deerfield is known as the Tilton Library. The present building is the fifth home of libraries within this village. This last library was secured by the funds left by C. B. Tilton, an old-time resident of the place. It stands on Main Street on the site of an old residence occupied by Mr. Tilton and which was burned after his death. Its cost was $15,000 aside from the land on which it stands. It is a handsome red brick structure —all modern including steam heat and electric lights. The present number of books in this library is about 4,800. Mrs. Ellen S. Bill-

ings has been librarian for over twenty years. The president of the board of trustees is Edward A. Rice.

Another community center in the town of Deerfield is "East Deerfield" where the Boston & Maine railroad company has extensive repair shops, furnishing employment for many men who reside in Greenfield. One of the principal improvements here is the large Young Men's Christian Association building for the railway employees.



CHAPTER X

TOWN HISTORIES

The Town of Shelburne—This town has a taxable area of 13,832 acres, lies on the Deerfield River and has for its boundaries Colerain on the north, Conway on the south, Greenfield and Deerfield on the east, and Conway and Buckland on the west. Its railway station is across the line in Buckland. As is the case with many of the towns within Franklin county, this is rugged and covered largely with mountains and rough land, with intervening valleys through which course many beautiful streams, among the smaller of which are Dragon, Shingle, and Sluice brooks, flowing into the Deerfield River, and Allen's and Hinsdale brooks flowing into Green River. On account of the fine scenery and climate this locality has long been noted as a summer resort.

This town is favored with a fine farming section and the number of beautiful and productive farms greet the eye on every hand. Fine stock including Durham cattle, and the dairy business have long been noted in these parts of the county.

Settlement—This territory was included in a tract granted to Deerfield in 1712, which extended "nine miles west to the western woods." What is now Shelburne was called Deerfield Northwest or Deerfield Pasture, for the tract was not considered worth much at that time. The feet of the white men were slow at invading this section of the county for many years. Sometimes between 1752-56, Jonathan Catlin and James Ryder, of Deerfield, made the first actual settlement at Shelburne Falls. These two men and their families faced the dangers and privations of civilization, and were driven away by the Indian foe, and returned in 1856 to Deerfield. The land first taken by these two pioneers was, after the Indian troubles had ceased, taken up by Martin Severance and Daniel Ryder. Soon followed five families in 1760; fourteen families in 1761. Of Martin Severance just mentioned above, it may be said that he settled in 1760, and conveyed to his new home, on a horse's back, himself, his family, and all his household goods. Severance fought through the French and Indian wars, was taken prisoner at Lake George, and escaped after two years' captivity. He died in 1810, aged ninety-two years. An interesting story is on record of Archibald Lawson, who served in the Indian war

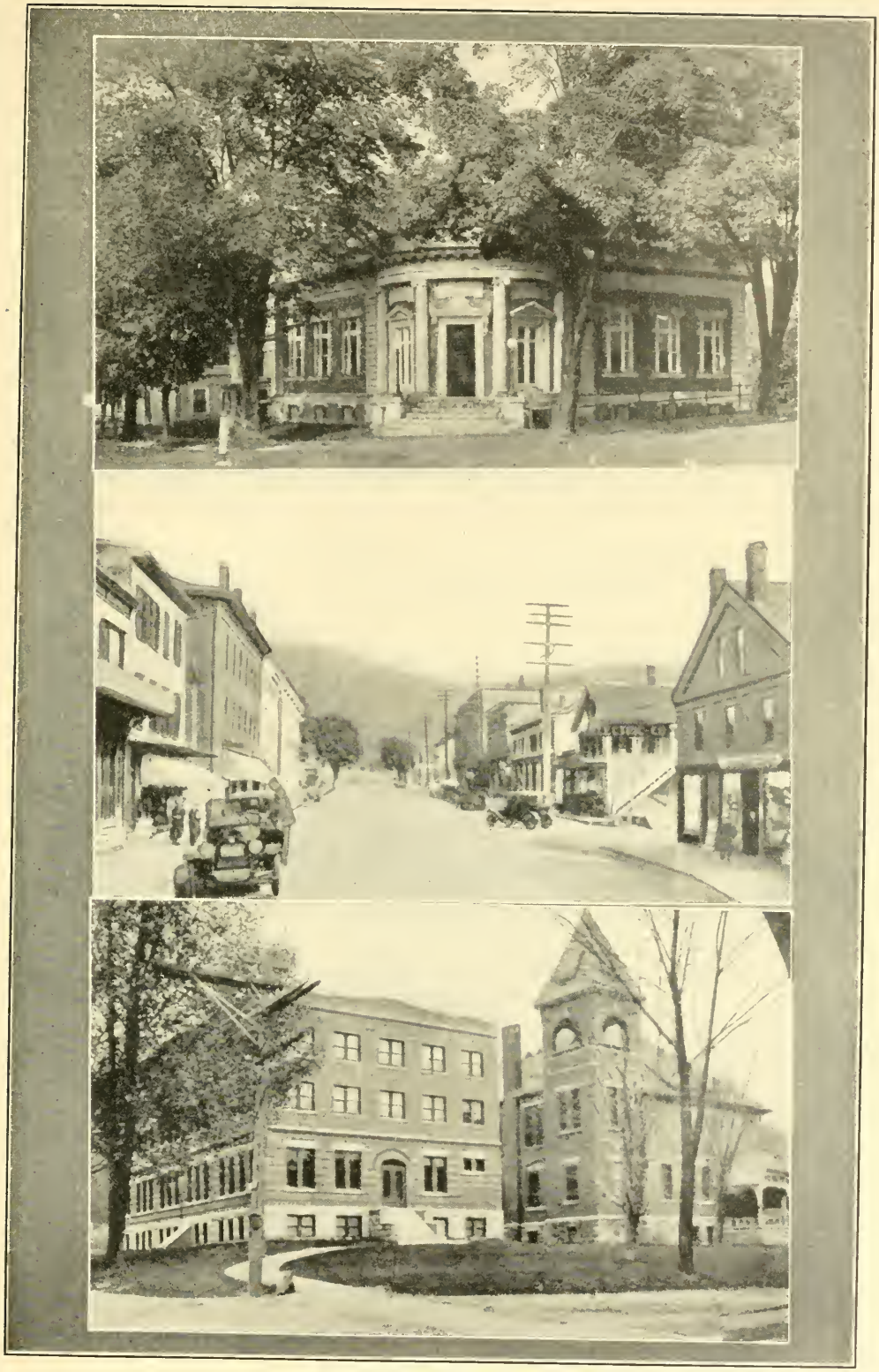
campaigns, bought fifty acres of land in "Northwest," giving fifty yards of domestic linen cloth, for which his wife hatcheled the flax and spun the yarn, and which Lawson wove, being a weaver by trade. When he bartered for his land with the land-agent at Deerfield, the latter said he would not go out to the Northwest for all the land there, and told Lawson to take his fifty acres where he found a place to suit him. Later Lawson bought enough land at the price of a yard of cloth for an acre of land, to make two hundred acres. This in later years was known as the Hardy farm.

Revolutionary times brought many changes here. There was a difference of opinion regarding breaking away from the English government. The last district meeting under His Majesty's name was held February, 1776. In 1779 the district resolved to take the oath of allegiance to the United States of America, and declared that all persons refusing to take it should be prosecuted according to law.

Until 1822 the people of Shelburne were obliged to go to Greenfield for their mail, but during that year they secured a postal station of their own. A newspaper known as the Shelburne Falls 'Standard" was established in 1877, by Major Fleming. June 21, 1868, one hundred years after the incorporation of Shelburne, the town celebrated its centennial anniversary.

Organization—Early in 1768 the inhabitants of "Deerfield Northwest" petitioned Deerfield to be set off as a separate district but this was rejected. But again the same season it was tried and succeeded and June 21, the district of Shelburne was incorporated and in 1786 the district became a town. The name was chosen in honor of William Fitzmaurice, of England, second earl of Shelburne, who in return sent a bell for a church of the town, but for some reason the bell never reached Shelburne. The tract incorporated included a section of land on the south side of the Deerfield River, but in 1780 this piece was set off to Conway.

The early churches consisted of the first which was built in 1769, with John Taylor as first minister. A second Congregational church was organized at Shelburne Falls in 1850, with forty-four members. A Baptist church was organized in 1792, they uniting with the church at Greenfield. The second Baptist church was organized with nineteen members in 1833. The first church built at the Falls, was in 1836, and the second in 1852. A Unitarian society was formed in 1828 and existed until 1860, but never had a church edifice of their own. The Methodist church of Shelburne



SHELBURNE FALLS

PRATT'S MEMORIAL LIBRARY BRIDGE STREET SCIENCE HALL AND ARMS ACADEMY

was organized October, 1842, with a class of twelve members. The place of worship was in Buckland town, across the river from the Falls. The Universalist church at Shelburne Falls was formed in 1853 and in 1864 a church building was erected. Its cost was $12,000, inclusive of organ and furniture. In 1782 a society of Shakers located in Shelburne, at the Falls, and built a house of worship. In 1785 they moved to New Lebanon, New York.

The churches of this town today include the Congregational, Baptist and Episcopal churches, while on the Buckland side of the Deerfield River are the William Butler Memorial Methodist Episcopal and the Roman Catholic denominations.

Schools—The earliest attempt to provide schools seems to have been made in 1770, when it was voted to divide the place into four parts, and to have school in each part one month a year. Watson Freeman taught the first school in the town, beginning at about the date last named. In 1777 there were five school districts and an annual appropriation of thirty pounds Sterling. It is related that a tavern-keeper named Stephen Taylor, also taught school and was so fond of smoking that he used daily to draw whiffs from his strong pipe while hearing recitations. In 1793 it was proposed by the town that it should have an academy, and it was agreed to raise a fund of 200 pounds Sterling for that purpose. But the Legislature would not aid them as it was thought they might, so the project was ended for the time being, but in 1833 the academy was incorporated as the "Franklin Academy," and it was rechartered in 1847, as the "Shelburne Falls Academy." It started on a fund of $5,000 raised by subscription. The Arms Academy, for whose endowment Major Ira Arms bequeathed, upon his death, in 1859, a fund of $18,000, was erected in 1879. By that date the fund had reached $40,000, and it was proposed to build an Academy building with $10,000 and this was done with some changes. Mr. Arms was a native of Greenfield, but lived most all his life in Shelburne Falls, where he donated to many worthy objects, including the Congregational church, the Arms Academy, the Cemetery fund amounting in that one object to $5,000, besides his endowment of $18,000 above named.

In the school report for 1924, it is seen that the public school resources and expenditures that year were $42,111. The amount expended for teachers was $8,132; for transportation, $1,283; repairs, $993. For books and supplies used $1,984. The Arms Academy is now a part of the public school system of the town.

The public library, a fine modern structure in Shelburne Falls is known as the "Pratt Public Library." This succeeded the old Arms library established in 1859. The present number of books in the public library is 7,897.

The 1924 assessors' report for this town shows number of polls, 473; horses assessed, 217; cows, 815; sheep, 290; neat cattle, other than cows, 505; swine, 20; value realty, $1,896,925; personal property, $588,829. Tax-rate, $22 per thousand dollars valuation.

The town officers in 1924 were: Treasurer—Charles E. Ward; town clerk, same as treasurer; selectmen—David T. Barnard, Andrew H. March, Robert L. Hillman; assessors—D. W. Long, H. P. Ware, A. H. March; collector—Earl M. Gould; auditor—James S. Bush.

The societies of the village of Shelburne Falls are the Free Mason bodies, who own their own building. Many residing here, however, belong to Odd Fellows and other lodges over the line in Buckland. Mountain Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, was organized in Rowe in 1806, transferred to Colerain in 1818, where in 1840 it disappeared but was revived in 1856 at Shelburne Falls.

Banking—There are two banks at Shelburne Falls—the National Bank, established in 1855 as a State bank and in 1865 changed to a National. The other bank is the Shelburne Falls Savings Bank, originally called "Five Cent Savings Bank."

Manufacturing Plants—The manufacturing interests in Shelburne are chiefly the following: The Mayhew Steel Product Company, makers of a full line of small tools. This company has been in business since 1866, and among other articles they have made thousands upon thousands of braces and bits, which have been sold all over the world. Jack knives and silk twist factories once flourished here, also a musical instrument factory and a tannery.

The municipality of Shelburne Falls is lighted by the Greenfield Electric Light Company, while its water-works is a part of the home Fire Department organization.

The Village Hall is known as "Memorial Hall" and was erected about 1897 by bond issue, which has all been paid off. The Grand Army of the Republic have suitable quarters in this building, which is a two-story brick structure.

It is now estimated that the town of Shelburne has about 1,500 population, while that of Buckland, across the river, has a few more, possibly, at this time. Shelburne Center is the only other village in the town.

Town of Buckland—Originally this town embraced a part of Charlemont. It occupies an interior position west of the center of the county, and lies south and west of Deerfield River, which separates it from Charlemont and Shelburne. On the southeast is the town of Conway, south is Ashfield, and west are the towns of Hawley and a part of Charlemont lying south of the Deerfield River.

Buckland was incorporated April 14, 1779. The area is comparatively small and the surface is broken by many hills and valleys. West of the center is a range of hills of great elevation extending nearly across the town. Clesson's Brook, the principal stream, passes from Hawley eastward and finally empties into Deerfield River, through a small, fertile valley. The main settlements are along the Deerfield. The people are about equally divided between agriculture and manufacturing pursuits.

Apple Valley in this town, has long been noted for its large production of fine apples grown and marketed annually.

Settlement—The first settlement was effected in 1769, by Captain Nahum Ward, a relative of Artemas Ward, who had served in the French and Indian wars when yet a mere youth. About the same date another settlement was made by Gershom Ward on the western part of the Ward grant; he died in 1806. John and Daniel Ward were among the pioneer band, but a little later. At the "Centre" Samuel Taylor was among the first and was a foremost citizen there many years. At Pine Mills, Benjamin Ellis was a member of the first settlement. Beyond the hill, not far from the Ashfield line, settled Nathan and Aaron Lyon, about 1780. The last named was the father of that worthy Christian woman, Mary Lyon, who founded Mount Holyoke Female Seminary.

Loss of Town Records—Unfortunately the early records of this town were burned in 1876. It is known that Samuel Taylor was town clerk from 1779 to 1820. The basement of the Congregational church at the Centre, was used for town hall purposes many years. The old Troy and Greenfield (now Boston and Maine) railway traverses the valley of the Deerfield River and at Shelburne Falls has a station.

The following are the present town officers: Town clerk—Albert C. Bray; treasurer—Albert C. Bray; selectmen—Walter S. Stanford, Frank H. Chandler, and Gilbert E. Griswold; tax-collector—Asher J. Brooks; auditor—Roy S. Turton; assessors—William S. Williams, Henry P. Wells, A. C. Bray; tree warden—Robert A.

March. The assessors' report shows for 1924: Males assessed, 447; assessed value of realty, $490,086; personal estates, $1,947,985; tax-rate per thousand dollars, $22; number cows, 488; sheep, 134.

The school report shows resources amounting to $28,500 with expenditures amounting to all but $4.19 of the amount just named as resources. Salaries of teachers and supervisors, $10,694. Transportation has cost the district of the township $3,047. Fuel cost for last school year, $1,596.

Early Manufacturing Interests—Clesson's River in Buckland affords much water power and at an early day it was utilized for operating factories including these: Near the Hawley line at what was called "Upper City," Silas Dodge had saw mill and handle factories. A trip-hammer and forge were also operated. Farther down stream was the grist mill of Josiah Davis built in 1800. In 1835 the same power ran a cloth dressing and fulling mill for Abel Parker. Saw mills, broom-handle factories, etc., were located all along the rapid running stream. Files and a patent brace-and-bit were made successfully on this stream. The native forests afforded abundant timber for manufacturing purposes.

Hamlets and Villages—Formerly, in the north part of this town was what was known as "Mill-Yard" and there were located stores, mills and shops, but with time passing, industries went to other parts of the town. Buckland is on both sides of Clesson River, near the center of the town, four miles from Shelburne Falls. The Buckland postoffice was established at the old "Mill Yard" and later moved to the present village, Buckland Center. At present the principal interests in way of factories are the plants of the Goodell-Pratt Company, manufacturies of many kinds of small tools from steel, including braces, bits, etc.; also the great plant of the Lamson & Goodnow Manufacturing Company, makers of fine table cutlery. This business was established in 1837 and is a large concern. Here is made the Anchor Brand of cutlery, including table knives, butcher knives, carving sets, etc. The modern "Stain-proof" cutlery is exclusively produced at these works which now employ 175 men.

The churches of the village of Shelburne Falls on both sides of the river, are the Roman Catholic and the William Butler Memorial church of the Methodist church, the latter erected in 1906. The Lodges include the Odd Fellows and Sons of St. George, etc.

Town of Ashfield—This town is situated in the southwestern

part of Franklin county and is bounded on the north by Hawley, Buckland and Conway, in the same county; and the south by the towns of Goshen and Cummington, in Hampshire county, and Conway in Franklin county; on the east by the town of Conway, Franklin county; and on the west by the town of Plainfield, Hampshire county, and Hawley, Franklin county. Its nearest railway station is Shelburne Falls, nine miles distant, with South Deerfield twelve miles. There are numerous small streams, but none of great water-power. The principal stream is Bear River a branch of Deerfield River. Nearly all of the larger streams have afforded sufficient water-power to run small factories in the long ago years. The highest elevation in this town is Peter's Hill with an elevation of 1,740 feet above tide-water. Hills and valleys constitute the general topography of this town. As a farming section here one finds stock raising, poultry, and dairying, the chief sources of wealth to the land owner.

Early Settlement—About 1743 the first settlement was effected in this part of the county. During that year a grist-mill was put in operation. It is believed that the first permanent settler was Richard Ellis, a native of Ireland; he came in between 1742 and 1744. Tradition has it that this man in youth was sent to this country to a planter in Virginia, but that the sea-captain proved faithless and sold him in Boston, for his passage over the ocean.

The first tree felled in the town was by this first settler, who had a log cabin partly under ground; it stood on the banks of White Brook.

Thomas Phillips of Easton was the next to locate here. His sister married young Ellis above mentioned. The third family to claim the township as their abiding place was Chileab Smith, of South Hadley. He died in Ashfield in 1800, aged ninety-two years, leaving eight children and fifty-six grandchildren. By 1754 the settlement had grown to fifteen families and about one hundred persons. In 1754 the French and English war broke out afresh and these settlers were forced to abandon their homes and remained away three years. The Smith mentioned above, at his own expense erected a stockade or improvised fort in Huntstown; it is said to have enclosed eighty-one square rods, and was bullet proof. It was made of logs and they were well put together and had but one gateway. After a year of private watching and working, when they dare go outside, they solicited and obtained from the authorities of the colony a squad of nine soldiers, under Sergeant

Allen, who was under general command of Gen. Israel Williams. They continued with them protecting them by day and watching over them by night, for almost two years. Before the close of hostilities another fort was built, six rods square about two hundred rods south of the first one. No Indians were discovered about there, however, to do any mischief.

The first highway ever laid through this town was the continuation of an early thoroughfare that passed Hatfield into Deerfield, and thence to Ashfield.

A postoffice was established at South Ashfield in 1866, with Charles A. Ward as postmaster. From him and others it was learned that in 1815 a postoffice was established at Ashfield Plains, the mail coming from Northampton, via Whately, Conway, Ashfield and Buckland, to Hawley once a week.

Among prominent men of this town may be recalled a large number of evangelical ministers—more possibly than from any town in the county. Prof. Alvan Clark, the widely-known astronomer and telescope maker, was a native of this town. President Clark, of Amherst Agricultural College, was from this town

The first record of town meeting available is that of March 8, 1762, when Ebenezer Belding was chosen moderator. The town was incorporated June 21, 1765, by the name of Ashfield, a name derived from the existence of a large quantity of ash timber in the town at the date of incorporation. Prior to that time it had been known as Huntstown. The bounds given in the original description was as follows: "east of Deerfield, south partly by Narragansett township, Number Four, and partly by Province Land, partly by Bernard's and Mayhew's and Hatfield Land, and north by Province Land." At the first regular meeting in March, 1766, officers were selected and the town commenced its own civil government.

Villages and Hamlets—The villages were described in 1880 as follows: "Ashfield Plains, the principal village in the town, is situated a little east of the geographical center. It comprises three churches—Congregationalist, Baptist, and Protestant Episcopal—a town hall, three stores, a postoffice, a hotel. The main street is shaded with rows of beautiful maple trees, and a handsome soldiers' monument adorns the village."

"South Ashfield, is a small village one mile and a half south of the center. There are a store, postoffice and a number of residences." "Howesville and Spruce Corners are small hamlets—

the former in the north part of the town, and the latter in the southwest section."

Educational Interests—The first appropriation for a school fund was made March 31, 1766. In 1772 the town was divided into three school districts "and to build three school houses" reads the record-book. In 1880 the town had an average attendance at their schools of 238, each scholar costing the tax-payers $8.42. In June, 1924, the school reports show the town to have ten schools, ten teachers; an average of 200 scholars. The receipts and expenditures of the town for schools in 1924 were $19,911. The 1925 School Committee is: Frank L. Gray, Hattie Y. Guilford and Richard E. Field.

The Sanderson Academy was established by Rev. Alvan Sanderson in 1816. After the founder died others took the work up and by 1832 more than a thousand pupils had attended the institution. The celebrated educator, Mary Lyon, attended and later became an instructor in this school. In 1887-88 Field Memorial Hall was donated by Mrs. Field, in memory of her husband, John W. Field, of Philadelphia. In all, the Fields gave the institution over $10,000.

This institution, which is still in existence, at one time needed financial aid and in the sixties and seventies was much aided by such men of world-wide note as Messrs. George William Curtis, whose summer home was here, and Charles Eliot Norton, who gave books and lectured every year for a quite a period. Other noted speakers delivered lectures and the proceeds of such lectures went to the Academy and Library Association. Among these men were James Russell Lowell, Edward J. Phelps and Joseph H. Choate.

The various libraries of the town of Ashfield have included these: The Social Library, formed in 1815, the Ashfield Library Association, in the seventies, and when Field Memorial Hall was built the library was moved into that structure.

Churches—The Congregational church was formed February 22, 1763. The Baptist church of "Baptist Corner" was organized in 1761 by Ebenezer Smith, the first pastor. The Episcopal church was formed in 1820. The Baptist church of Ashfield Plains was formed in 1867.

The Population—In 1761 this town had nineteen families; in 1775 the population was 600; in 1790 it was 1,459; 1800, 1,741; 1880, it was 1,062. The United States census for 1920 gave it as having only 689.

Industrial—Agriculture has been the main source of revenue in

this town. At an early day there were numerous saw mills and factories where wooden-ware was produced to quite an extent; also the several local distilleries in which essences and oils were distilled and where herbs and plants found ready sale.

Present Town Officers, Etc.—The town officers in 1925 are these: Town Clerk and treasurer—Allison G. Howes; selectmen, assessors and overseers of the poor—Claude Church, Abbott L. Howes, Clayton H. Eldridge; auditor—Walter A. Whitney; tax-collector —Austin G. Packard; tree warden—Hugh B. Wing; constables— M. Lawrence Fuller, Fred E. Johnson and Harry G. Shippe.

Town Aggregates—Total valuation of town, $1,215,986; total tax, $33,405; rate of taxation, $27; number polls assessed, 287; horses assessed, 293; cows assessed, 933; other cattle assessed, 425; sheep assessed, 186; swine assessed, 66.

Town of Colerain—Colerain, one of the largest towns in Franklin county, territorially, was originally spelled "Coleraine," as it was named after Baron Coleraine, of Ireland, who promised in advance, to send over the gift of a bell for the first church building. The bell never reached this county, but the name was given to its donor. This town lies on the northern line of the county, is bounded north by Vermont State line, south by the towns of Charlemont, Shelburne, and Greenfield, east by the town of Leyden, and west by the towns of Charlemont and Heath. While this town has had many manufacturing interests largely in by-gone days, its population has decreased since 1840. The population given by the Federal census returns of 1920 gave it 976.

In nearly every portion of its extensive territory one encounters many hills and vales. The most important stream is North River which flows almost directly south through the middle of the town, from the Vermont line to the Shelburne line. It affords abundant water-power which has been utilized by many saw-mills and factories in the years of its history. Green River which rises in Vermont, flows along the eastern border of the town, separating it from Leyden. Catamount and Christian Hill, notable eminences, are here.

Early Settlement—To Andrew and John Smith is credited the first permanent settlement of this town. They came from Deerfield about 1732. After two years they were driven away by fear of the Indian invasions. They returned in 1736. June, 1735, the General Court granted to the town of Boston three townships, by reason of their paying about one-fifth of the Colony tax. The

larger portion of present Colerain was set apart as the second of these townships, and was therefore known as "Boston, No. 2, Charlemont, No. 1, and Pittsfield, No. 3. Next to the Smith brothers already named, the settlers were largely Scotch-Irish, who settled near the Shelburne line, south of Meeting-House Hill.

On account of Indian troubles, the settlers here built three forts. The first was in 1740, in the center of the settlement. Fort Lucas, the second fort, was just east of the meeting-house, and the third fort—called Fort Morrison—was near North River, a mile north of what later was called Colerain Centre. These forts, though rudely constructed, gave some protection to the settlers, who had for several years all they could do to subsist. The part taken in the various wars is found in other histories of such conflicts, hence not detailed in this connection.

Organization—Originally called Boston Township, No. 2, the name of the settlement was changed in 1742 to Coleraine. June 30, 1761, the town was incorporated with the name it now bears. The list of town officers is all too lengthy to here append, suffice to give the list of officers for 1924-25 which is as follows: Selectmen—Herbert B. Donelson, Edgar M. Dwight, Everett M. Johnson; assessors—T. A. Brown, R. E. Nichols, R. M. Combs; overseers of the poor—the same as selectmen; tax-collector—H. H. Dennison; clerk of selectmen—E. M. Johnson; town clerk and treasurer—Hugh B. Miller; Fire warden—Frank Walden.

The amount appropriated for the town's use in 1924 was $60,267 and the amount expended was $57,833. The assessors' report gives these items: Polls assessed, 485; residents assessed, 396; non-residents assessed, 67; horses assessed, 346; cows assessed, 942; houses assessed, 350; sheep assessed, 393; swine assessed, 74; neat cattle, 552; fowls assessed, 6,665. Support of the poor, $730.61; bill for removal of snow, $259.87.

Villages—There are in this town seven villages, three of which are postoffice points, and the other sections are served through the rural free delivery system. The oldest place in the town is Colerain Centre, a community largely made up of farmers, retired and active. The place has churches and a few stores and shops. Foundry Village, a rural settlement, but in earlier days was the location of a good iron foundry, operated in 1834 by George Hastings. Later it was washed away by a flood in 1869. Near there is what is known as the Willis Place, where a cotton mill now stands and where many hundred operatives find employment.

Lyonsville a half mile south of Willis Place, is but a collection of houses, and south a mile further is Griswoldville with its cotton-mill industry. Shattuckville, is another point where since 1837 C. W. Shattuck operated an extensive cotton-mill, employing hundreds of men and women.

The villages above mentioned are located on the North River from which several factory plants derive their water-power. Adamsville and Elm Grove, other hamlets, are in the northeast part of the town.

Churches and Schools—In 1742 a committee was appointed to provide preaching. The same year a meeting-house was built on what has since been known as Meeting-House Hill, one mile east of Colerain Centre. It was many years before this building was fully completed—not until about 1769. The first pastor was doubtless Rev. Morrison. The First Baptist church was organized in 1780 when it had a membership of nineteen. The Second Baptist church was organized in 1786 and later a house of worship was erected just north of Christian Hill. A Methodist class was formed in 1832, a church organized in 1836 and a building at Colerain Centre. Some of these societies have gone down while others still remain in an active state.

The first known of schools in Colerain town was in 1753, when it was agreed by the selectmen to have a school, but there arose much bitter feeling against paying for schools out of the common funds, and one faction wanted the expense all to come out of those who sent to or attended such schools. The first school house was erected in 1761; men working on this building received only two shillings per day for their wages. In 1797 the school interests had so increased that eleven school classes were formed into districts. Since then public schools have kept pace here with the other towns of the county. The school report for 1924 for Colerain, gives the town school resources and liabilities as $30,000. The expense for transportation of scholars for the year was $4,554. The school committee was then O. R. Fairbanks, R. W. Purrington, S. H. Walker.

Industries—Fifty years ago the closely estimated value in factory products in this town was $390,622, while the value in agricultural products was only $183,900. The most important industry is the Griswoldville Manufacturing Company's plant. This was established in 1828 by Joseph Griswold, who commenced to make sash, doors and blinds, then he added a cotton mill with sixteen looms,

and kept branching out, meeting with losses by several fires but keeping on rebuilding.

Town of Conway—Among one of the largest towns in Franklin county territorially, is Conway, with an area of 23,000 acres. It lies on the southern border of the county. Is bounded on the north by the town of Shelburne; on the south by Hampshire county and the town of Whately in Franklin county; on the east by the town of Deerfield and on the west by the towns of Ashfield and Buckland. The Troy and Greenfield railroad touches its northeastern border along which flows the Deerfield river. In 1790 Conway was the third largest in point of population, in the county of Hampshire—now embraced within the counties of Franklin, Hampshire, and Hampden. The Deerfield river forms the northeastern boundary, and flowing through the town is a valuable millstream called South River, which rising in Ashfield, passes east to Conway Centre, thence north and east, and empties into the Deerfield river. Bear River and Roaring Brook are the other streams in the town. Among minerals found from time to time, within this part of the county are alum, fluor-spar, galena, mica and slate.

Settlement—The territory now known as Conway was originally settled by Cyrus Rice, of Barre, who built the first house in 1762. This territory was included in a grant made to Deerfield in 1712 when its domain was enlarged so as to extend "nine miles westward into the western woods." The eastern half of the tract was first settled, and in 1767, when Conway was incorporated, embraced nearly all of the people then inhabiting the district. The first tavernkeeper was Thomas French, at whose house the first district meeting was held, and afterwards where the Baptist church was erected.

This town bore her part faithfully and well during the various wars in which this country has been plunged by no fault of her own. The military chapters of this work will treat such duties.

Organization—June 17, 1767, Conway was incorporated as a district and was named in honor of General Henry Conway, a member of the British ministry, who became popular with the people. Under the act of 1786, Conway became a town; the moderator at the first meeting, held at the inn of Thomas French, was Consider Arms.

With the passing decades the local government of this town has been fully up to the standard of the other towns in Franklin coun-

ty. The present town officers are as follows: Town clerk—C. Lyman Parsons; treasurer—Walter W. Bradbury; selectmen—Alvin C. Boice, John H. Parker, Edward B. Graves; assessors—C. Lyman Parsons, Alvan C. Boice, Charles L. Boyden; tax-collector—John G. Miller; tree-warden—Herman V. Hale; street superintendent, Edward J. Laidley. The treasurer's report for 1924 says the receipts and liabilities of the town for that year amounted to $66,424.50. The report of the assessors give for last year the total valuation of personal estate at $282,179; of real estate, $666,889; value of land, $336,049; tax-rate per thousand, $26; Number of non-residents assessed on property, $108; number assessed a poll tax only, 62; total number polls assessed, 273; number horses assessed, 247; cows, 247; sheep, 150; other neat cattle, 414; swine, 31; fowls, 2,958; dwelling houses assessed, 283; acres of land assessed, 22,725.

Villages—The two villages of this town mentioned in former histories of Western Massachusetts, were Conway Centre and Burkville—adjoining one another and usually regarded as one. Forty-five years ago this place had two stores, a bank, hotel, public library, high school, three churches, and a fire company of eighty members. Edmund Burk in 1837 built a mill and this created a small village. It was naturally known as Burkville. A cloth mill was also located there. The industries of many years ago are mostly gone from the town, while a few lesser ones in importance have taken their place. A third of a century ago the "Centennial Gazette" of the county, by the "Gazette & Courier" of Greenfield, gave the following on the industries in the town of Conway:

"Among the defunct or lost industries of the town may be mentioned Clapp's tannery, destroyed by the freshet of 1869; the tool company, established at Burkville about 1845, and destroyed by fire in 1851, after which the company removed to Greenfield, and the South River Cutlery Company, which removed to Winsted, Connecticut, a few years after commencing business. In 1854 Edmund Burk and others incorporated the first bank at Conway, which in 1865 was changed to a National Bank. The Conway Savings Bank was incorporated in 1887. A co-operative creamery was established in 1886 and was successful.

Churches, etc.—Less than one year after the incorporation of the town or in 1767, the first church was established—the Congregational. Twenty years later the Baptist church was organized. The Methodist and Roman Catholic churches are of more recent origin.

Educational—About 1850 the Conway Academy was established. Later this institution was turned over to the common school system of the town. In order to aid and keep alive the academy just mentioned, Marshall Field of Chicago and ex-Secretary Whitney of the U. S. Navy Department, both native sons of Conway, each gave liberally, but finally it had to be made into a high school. The following is from the last report of the school officers of the town of Conway: The town has seven schools with a total of 221 pupils; average membership, 189; number of teacher, seven; salaries from $775 to $1,700 per school year.

Town of Hawley—This town was formerly designated No. 7; is situated in the western part of Franklin county, and is bounded on the north by Charlemont, on the east by Buckland and Ashfield, on the south by Ashfield and Hampshire county, on the west by Savoy town in Berkshire county. The town was incorporated February 7, 1792. Its name was taken in honor of Joseph Hawley, of Northampton. While it is one of the hill towns it has some fertile tracts of good land, as well as beautiful pastures on which the flocks and herds feed in contentment. Parker's Hill, near its center, is 2,060 feet above sea-level, and with the exception of Graylock in Berkshire county, it is the highest elevation of the State. The main divisions of this town are East and West Hawley, in which there are lesser divisions called Bozrah, Pudding Hollow, Fullerville, King Corner, Hallocksville and South Hawley.

Settlement—The names of the first settlers were: Deacon Joseph Bangs, Daniel Burt, Samuel and Arthur Hitchcock, Timothy Baker, Reuben Cooley, Joseph Easton, Elisha Hunt, Abel Parker, Nathan West, Phineas Scott, Thomas King and a few others. The pioneer at King Corner, in the southwest part of the town, was Thomas King, who came from Brimfield and purchased one thousand acres for a dollar an acre. His descendants of the fourth and fifth generation still reside here. The cultivation of the soil has always been the chief occupation of the people here. On the small streams, from time to time there have been numerous saw mills and shops where broom handles, whip butts, rakes, etc., were manufactured. These pioneer men and women had a religious spirit within them and soon worshiped at private houses. In 1793, a year after incorporation, they built a church—a large, two-story building, galleries and elevated pulpit. It stood on the "common" in East Hawley. In 1848 this building was razed and another erected one mile and a half farther to the south. The first pastor was Rev. Jonathan Grout, who preached until released by death in 1835.

Industries—Before 1790, Moses Rogers had in operation a grist-mill near the center of the town, on Chickley's river. While making repairs on his dam Mr. Rogers was drowned. Clothing works at this point in the long ago years were carried on by Harvey Barker, Ebenezer Dickinson and others, but not within several generations.

Near West Hawley church was a furnace and forge at the beginning of the nineteenth century, where iron was made from the near-by ore. One of the operators was Elias Goodspeed. The buildings were burned in 1825.

In 1835 Austin Pease built a tannery afterward operated by Howes & Sears until it was abandoned in 1855. At the next water-power above, Clark Fuller, A. Sears and others had saw mills and turning shops. Saw mills were very numerous in the early years of settlement and provided work for many as well as producing excellent building lumber when the settlers wanted to quit the cabin home and move into a frame residence.

Stores and Postoffices—From Evert's History of Franklin County in 1879, the following appears concerning the town of Hawley at that date—forty-six years ago: "Stores and postoffices are kept in the eastern and western part, in the neighborhood of the churches. There was an attempt soon after 1800 to found a village in the vicinity of the old church, and here was opened the first store by Joseph Hubbard. This stand was later occupied by the Longleys. At East Hawley, merchandising started about 1833, by Whitney Hitchcock and Jonas Jones. They were succeeded by Lucius L. Clark and others. Calvin S. Longley became proprietor, closed his business at the old stand and moved here with the Hawley postoffice. A tri-weekly mail then came from Shelburne Falls. In West Hawley a postoffice was established in 1861, at the house of Willet Vincent. About 1830 South Hawley postoffice was established at the house of Col. Noah Joy an inn-keeper. This office was suspended in 1862."

Schools and Churches—In 1792 the first money was voted for schools in this town. The town was soon divided into districts and schoolhouses provided as necessity demanded. The present schools of the town are in keeping with the times; children are transported to and from school, where they live too far to easily walk. The expense for this in 1924 was $2,600. There are now six districts. The report shows the 1924 school resources were $11,-374, while the expenditures were $13,089, a deficit of only $1,714.

The churches in this town have always been a potent factor. The denominations here represented from time to time have been: The First Congregational Church organized 1778, and meetings were first held at private houses. The West Hawley church was formed in 1825. The first meetinghouse was built in 1825 and lasted until 1847 when a new one was erected.

Present Town Government—The reports of the various town officers show these items for 1924: Town officers are as follows, Clerk and treasurer—F. D. Carter; selectmen—C. W. Gould, M. H. White, H. L. Raymond; assessors—C. W. Gould, L. P. Hawkes, M. H. White; school committee—Mrs. Mattie L. White, E. R. Sears, W. A. Wells; overseers of the poor—the selectmen; superintendent of roads—A. H. Maynard. The treasurer of the town in his report shows the receipts for 1924 to have been $32,787, a balance on hand in the bank December 31, 1924 of $2,145.

The Pratt Farm—The largest single farm in Franklin County is that of William M. Pratt in the towns of Ashford, Hawley and Plainfield. A boundary line-stone on this farm marks not only a corner of three towns, but also the two counties of Franklin and Hampshire. About 1921 Mr. Pratt, a manufacturer of Greenfield, was induced to go to the hills of Hawley. At first, however, the start was made on a hundred acre tract known as the Lucius Hall place, in the northwest corner of Ashfield. Later, Mr. Pratt purchased two other farms—the Enoch Harmon and the Church farm. Here on a 500 acre tract of land Mr. Pratt undertook farming. The location is where the Green Mountains and Berkshires meet. The soil is rich and the elevation commanding, the highest part being 1,800 feet above sea-level. Everything in way of equipment is strictly modern. Here one finds a saw mill and a "sugar-bush" where 600 gallons of syrup are made annually.

At first Mr. Pratt's attention was turned toward raising turkeys, but later his farm became famous as a stock-breeding place, where none but the finest animals are admitted for breeding purposes.

Town of Charlemont—This town is in the second tier of towns in Franklin County from its northern line. It borders on Berkshire County on the west and is bounded on the north by the towns of Rowe, Heath and Colerain; on the east by Colerain and Shelburne and on the south by Hawley and Buckland. The Deerfield River flows along the southern part of the town, and the Boston and Maine railroad follows the valley throughout the township.

The territory now embraced within Charlemont town was one of three townships granted to Boston by the General Court, June 27, 1735. It was sold to John Reed and by him to Chickley and Keyes and at first went by the name of "Boston Township No. 1." Later it was called Chickley's Town, Charley Mount, Charley's Mont, etc, but since 1740 by its present name. Some lands were sold earlier, but no attempts at making a settlement were had until the spring of 1743 when Captain Moses Rice and family came from Rutland, Worcester County. He built his house on the extreme frontier and had to go to Deerfield for all of his supplies. After he had made many improvements Mr. Rice was fortunately warned of the invasion of this county by the Indians, and with his family fled to the forts at Deerfield, their property all being destroyed. He returned to his former home in Rutland where he remained three years, then came back to Charlemont to begin the restoration of his homestead. Others to come in were Othniel and Joshua Taylor, who built houses directly opposite the later site of the Buckland depot. Eleazer Hawks and sons settled on either side of the Deerfield River, above the Rice tract. By 1752 the settlement had increased to more than a dozen families. Prosperity had been smiling on the little settlement, but was soon cut short when Captain Moses Rice and his son, Artemas, his grandson, Asa Rice, nine years of age, with Titus King, Phileas Arms and others, who were in the field in June, hoeing corn, and were set upon by a party of Indians. Phileas Arms fell dead in the field; Captain Rice received a severe wound in the thigh, and was taken prisoner, with the lad Asa and Titus King, while Artemas Rice escaped. The Indians made no further attack, but withdrew with their captives to a high plain, where Mr. Rice was tomahawked and scalped. He was found alive later in the day and taken to his son's house where he died that evening. The others were taken to Crown Point, and thence into Canada. Asa was ransomed after a captivity of six years. King was taken to France and later to England, whence he returned to Northampton, his native place. Many years ago a suitable monument was erected to the memory of Mr. Rice, by Hon. Orlando B. Potter, a descendant. It was dedicated with appropriate exercises by the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, held in Charlemont August 2, 1871.

Incorporation—Charlemont was incorporated June 21, 1765, and included at that time, two-thirds of the present town of Heath

and a part of Buckland. Thirty families were then living in the town. The date of the first church is not known, but it did not last long. It is known that the first pastor was Rev. Jonathan Leavitt. Other societies formed here were the First Congregational church, in Charlemont; the Congregational Church of Christ, in East Charlemont; the Baptist, the Methodist Episcopal, the Unitarian, or Independent Congregational.

The Academy—In 1845, Charlemont Academy was built and in it was taught a select school for a number of years, but finally the building was burned. Early in 1879 a library was opened with one hundred books as a start. It is now a well sustained library of the town.

Charlemont and Zoar are the only two villages within the town. At an early day considerable manufacturing was carried on here, in the making of chair stock, wool carding, scythe snaths, axes, hats, clothes, pottery, stoves, grist and saw mills being at various points. A number of wood-working shops are still running.

The Deerfield Valley Agricultural Society was organized here in 1870 and became a successful society, continuing until now.

Coming down to the present time, it may be said that the local government of Charlemont Town is in the hands of the following town officers: Treasurer—Homer Sherman; town clerk—same as treasurer; auditor—Fred D. Legate; selectmen—Walter H. Smith, Horace E. Warfield, Stephen W. Hawkes and others, both elective and appointive.

The school committee reported in 1924 receipts for resources, $19,096 and disbursements to balance with cash on hand $168. Paid for teachers' salaries, $10,047; transportation of scholars, $3,046.

Town of Rowe—Rowe, one of the northwestern towns in Franklin County is bounded on the north by the State of Vermont, on the east by Heath, on the south by Charlemont and Berkshire County, on the west by Berkshire County and Monroe towns. The most conspicuous range of mountains is the Adams Mountains in the southeastern part, and the hills near the Deerfield River. Pulpit Rock is one of the natural curiosities found here as it much resembles the old style church pulpit of New England. Here one sees charming landscapes. The principal stream of the town is Pelham Brook, which receives numerous lesser streams and runs a general southwestern direction and empties into Deer-

field River. Several excellent water-powers are found along its meandering course through the town. While some mills have been operated here the general rule has been the pursuit of agriculture, dairying and grazing which have been profitable to land owners, where they have operated their own farms.

Old Fortifications—In 1744 the province of Massachusetts erected a fort in this town in its chain of defenses against the French and Indians. It was in the way of a well built stockade, and was called Fort Pelham. It never saw much military service and was withdrawn in 1754 as a garrison. Its location was near the brook on the farm later owned by Edward Wright.

Original Title and Bounds—In June, 1762, the greater portion of the present town of Rowe was sold at auction, by order of the General Court, and was purchased by Rev. Cornelius Jones for 380 pounds Sterling. This tract was known as Township No. 10, and was about four miles square, bounded on the south by the Town of Charlemont, on the west by the mountains of Monroe. Mr. Jones called the grant Myrifield, and the name of the town was retained until its incorporation February 9, 1785, when it became known as Rowe. It was then made to embrace 200 rods more on the east, and a like width on the south, taken from Charlemont. These bounds were modified in 1822, when all that part of Rowe lying west of the Deerfield River was taken off to form Monroe, and by the annexation on the southwest, in 1838, of a tract of unincorporated land called Zoar. Mr. Jones offered his land for sale on reasonable terms and in February, 1779, he sold the remainder of the grant—4,000 acres—to William Parkhurst & Co., of Brookfield, for "nine thousand pounds, current money of the State;" and as much of the land to the settlers had been paid with Continental money, which proved worthless, Mr. Jones was left in his old age in straitened circumstances.

Early Settlement—The first settler was also the proprietor, Rev. Jones, and he came with his family from Sandisfield about 1770. He built a house of split timbers, a half mile east of the center of the town. There he lived several years in pioneer simplicity. In 1773 he erected the first frame barn in the town and had all the men in the settlement—six and a carpenter—to assist in raising the building. When the Revolution came on Mr. Jones being a patriot, he and his sons, Daniel and Reuben, hastened to Saratoga to aid in repulsing Burgoyne. Daniel lost his life, at the battle of Stillwater. The father, Rev. Jones, was a graduate of

Harvard and served as pastor in this town until 1780, then moved to New York.

The northeastern part of Rowe was settled by Mathew Barr, with several sons, one of whom was Aaron who was at the Battle of Bunker Hill where he was mortally wounded, and was the first man carried away to Cambridge. He was hit by a cannon-ball and died the same day. Artemas Ward settled about the same time, near the present village. Here he built a saw mill on the creek still bearing his name. The large family of the Lambs next added to the settlement.

Civil Government—The warrant for the first town meeting was issued March 25, 1785, by Samuel Taylor, of Buckland, and was directed to Ambrose Potter, "one of the principal inhabitants of a Plantation called Myrifield." It stated that it was situated "in Hampshire county, lately incorporated into a town by the name of Rowe by an act of the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts." Nathan Taylor was made the first town clerk. Without further details of the organization and local affairs of the town it may be added that the following are the present town officers: Town clerk and treasurer—M. S. Woffenden; selectmen and overseers of the poor—G. R. Hartshorn, John Davenport, M. A. Newton; auditor—Mrs. M. A. Peck; assessors—H. D. Wright, G. R. Hartshorn, M. A. Newton.

The treasurer's report for 1924 shows assets and liabilities for the town $9,248.

The assessors' report shows items inclusive of these: Value of all real estate in town, $127,198; personal estates, $168,962; amount of taxes, $7,277; rate per thousand, $24; polls, 85; persons assessed, 188; residents assessed, 86; horses assessed, 98; cows assessed, 215; sheep, 84; neat cattle, 92; swine, 22; dwellings assessed, 115; acres of land assessed, 15,638.

The school report shows items as follows: Cost of transporting scholars to and from school, $822; amount paid for school appropriation for the year, $7,500.

Manufacturing Interests—The water-power of Pelham Brook has been utilized and made to propel saw mills from the date of the earliest settlement. Prior to 1780 a small grist-mill was also started. The Chapin and Thomas families were owners of these mills. A tannery was established before 1800 by Asa Foster which operated many years. In 1808 a fulling mill was put in operation at the village, by Ebenezer Nims. After 1812 the Gleasons started

the manufacture of satinets with a sixty spindle mill. Woodenware was made in considerable quantities and sent as far away as California. There it found a use in washing gold from the sands in the placer mines of those early times. Cut nails were also made here by Erastus Gleason and other small shops were in operation between 1825 and 1850. Most of these factories have long since disappeared. The only factory in the town of importance is the Deerfield Paper Company's mill controlled by the New England Power Company and they produce at average capacity, forty tons of craft paper daily and employ one hundred men. This mill is located at Monroe Bridge.

Villages and Hamlets—The geographical center of the town is north of the present village. There the first stores and shops centered until other more suitable locations within the town drew them thither. At what was styled Middle Rowe, before 1790, was opened the first store in the town, by a man named Ransom. The first tavern was by Ambrose Potter. Rowe Village is a mile to the south of the center, on Pelham Brook, and there were erected a church of the Baptist denomination, a good school house, a store, factory, tannery, and mills. In 1880 the population was about 125. The postoffice was established at the Center and remained there until 1874, since which it has been kept at the village. The Hoosac Tunnel postoffice was established in this town in the eighties.

Rowe as a town is now in no large sense a manufacturing place, but its people are mostly engaged in farming pursuits and its kindred branches. In 1892 there were three saw mills, two wheelwrights shops, postoffice, and two railroad stations, the "Fitchburg" at Hoosac Tunnel and the "Hoosac Tunnel and Wilmington," at Monroe Bridge.

The Davis Iron Mine—As long ago as 1840 it was known that iron pyrites might be found along the county road on the old Brown farm. Its commercial value was unknown until in 1880, when it was known that sulphuric acid could be produced from this mineral. In the nineties two hundred men found work at mining this material within the town. The owners of forests here furnished, at a fair price, 200,000 feet annually of props for mine supports used by the company. More than a million dollars worth of iron was taken out here, but the industry is now a thing of the past.

Education, etc.—The first school taught here was before the

Revolutionary War in a log cabin, and the teacher was a Miss Jones. Many scholars walked several miles through the forests to attend this school where the Bible was used, also the Psalters with Dilworth's spelling book. Later on came the private schools kept at dwellings. Still later the public schoolhouses were erected in various school districts. Rowe's Social Library was established in 1797, and in 1806 it had 130 volumes, mostly works on history. In 1869 this library was turned over to the town which incorporation agreed to pay in $25 per year for new books.

In August, 1885 the town celebrated its centennial anniversary of settlement. About fifteen hundred persons were in attendance.

The first minister to be ordained here was Rev. Preserved Smith in 1787 and he remained until 1804. He was pastor of the First Congregational Church. The Second Congregational Church was organized in 1833. In 1856 this society removed to the village of Rowe, when it took the name of Union Hall, and finally disbanded.

A Baptist church was organized in 1810. In 1876 it erected a neat edifice in the lower part of the village.

Town of Whately—Whately lies on the west bank of the Connecticut River, on the southern boundary of the county. It is bounded on the north by Conway and Deerfield; on the east by Sunderland, separated by the Connecticut River; on the south and west are Hatfield and Williamsburg, in Hampshire County. About one-third of the area of Whately is meadow lands, one-third uplands and the remainder hills. The highest elevation is 1,000 feet at Mount Esther in the northern part. The drainage of the town is afforded chiefly by Mill River and its branches. Many small streams and an abundance of fine springs are found here and there throughout this town. The South Deerfield fire district gets its water from here.

Settlement—Until 1771 a greater portion of the present Town of Whately formed the northern part of Hatfield, whose history is intermingled with this. At the date above named Whately was incorporated and named by Governor Hutchinson in compliment to his friend Thomas Whately, of London. In 1810 a small part of Deerfield was annexed to the original Town of Whately. The settlement was projected about 1736. Ebenezer Bardwell and Josiah Scott built log houses, on the Deerfield Road. Other very early pioneers were David Graves, Elisha Smith, John Waite, and Joseph Belding. They built close together for self-protection. These are all supposed to have left after the breaking out of the

French-and-Indian War, in 1744 and were gone at least until 1750. In 1771 the settlers in Whately numbered fifty-five. The number of dwellings was forty. In 1790 the town had 130 families and the total population was 735. The census reports in 1920 give the population as 1,239.

Organization—The act approving the incorporation of Whately Town was passed April 24, 1771. After the Shays' Rebellion a number of families residing in this town were warned to move from the town which they did. Forty years ago Whately had a poor-farm valued at $5,000. With the passing years this town has been well cared for by its selectmen and others in public office. The present town officers are as follows (1925): Town clerk—Herbert E. Roote; selectmen—William G. Strippe, Morris Powers, William E. Sanderson; assessors—Fred W. Bardwell, James Waite, and Arthur A. Waite; treasurer—Howard R. Waite; auditor—Lyman A. Crafts. The receipts and payments for the town in 1924 were $74,319. This left a credit for the town of $4,779 counted in the above statement. The town property invoiced last year gave the following: Town hall, $5,000; machinery and tools, $800; safes, furniture in hall and library, $400; store house, $100; schoolhouses, $45,000; chemical engines, $300.

Schools, etc.—No record appears throwing light on schools earlier than 1772 during which year a schoolhouse was erected. There were some private schools in the town long before this school just named. Coming down to 1871 the town hall at the hamlet was planned so as to afford school room facilities. Later other fine buildings were erected. The latest school reports for Whately Town show the number of public schools to be nine, with the same number of teachers. Total enrollment, 276; cost of teachers for the year, $8,750.

Churches—The first church was established in 1771 under the shade of two large oak trees. This was known as the Church of Christ. It was of the Congregational denomination; a Second Congregational society was organized in 1842. The Baptists formed a church here in May, 1789. The Methodists organized in the spring of 1818. The First Universalist church was formed 1839, but no building was provided only as they rented of the Baptist church. A Unitarian church was formed here in 1866 and they built a neat frame church edifice in 1867. With the coming and going of years many changes have been made in church affairs

in this town, but they have never been without churches and church edifices since the early days.

Industries—This has always been known as one of the agricultural sections of Franklin County. Stock raising and grazing have been very profitable at times in this town; also the cultivation of broom-corn and tobacco. In 1865 when tobacco was only twenty cents a pound, the Whately crop had a market value of $105,344. About three hundred acres were then cultivated annually.

The first water-power improvement in the town was near Indian Hill, on Roaring Brook, in 1763 when a grist-mill was erected. West Brook affords one of the State's best water-powers, for its volume of water. In the course of four or five miles it furnishes a dozen good mill sites. Each privilege has seventeen feet fall and all have from time to time been utilized.

Centennial Celebration—When the town of Whately was one hundred years old, in 1871, it celebrated its centennial anniversary in a pleasing manner. $600 were raised by subscription and the neighboring towns joined with their sister in celebrating the occasion.

Town of Monroe—In the extreme northwestern part of Franklin County is the Town of Monroe which is bounded on the north by Vermont, on the east by Rowe, on the south and west by Berkshire County. Monroe became an incorporated town February 21, 1822, to embrace all that part of Rowe lying west of the Deerfield River, and an unincorporated tract of land called the "Gore," and it was named for President Monroe. The town's area is twelve square miles of which but a small portion is suitable for profitable cultivation. Along the river are some fertile lands, having a loamy soil and near the center of the territory is a tract of farm land, though less rich, yet is successfully farmed. The principal stream is Deerfield River; Mill Brook crosses the town in a diagonial course from the northwest to the southeast, and affords a number of mill-sites which have been utilized and which have furnished employment to many people in the years of the town's history.

Settlement—Not until 1800 was there any attempt at making a permanent settlement in this part of Franklin County. About that period came Daniel Caneday, of Colerain, with his family, and was soon followed by Ebenezer Howard, Samuel Gore, and Daniel Gore. Then settlement was effected by the Ballou, Hicks,

Phelps, Stafford, Dunbar, and Bullock families. In 1840 the town had grown to have a population of 282 inhabitants. Its population as shown by the United States census reports for 1920 was 473.

Civil Organization—The first meeting of the town was ordered to be held at the house of Martin Ballou April 4, 1822, and Mr. Ballou was chosen moderator and at the same meeting was elected the first town clerk. Down through the years scores of men have held this office to the satisfaction of the free-holders and community in general. The 1925 town officers are as follows: Selectmen—C. W. Kingsley, A. W. Pike, H. B. Phelps; constables—W. J. Ellis, A. S. Clark, C. E. Davis; tax-collector—C. E. Davis; treasurer—R. L. Ballou; town clerk—Mrs. B. Stuart; assessors—C. E. Davis, R. L. Ballou, E. A. Bowen; auditor—G. C. Bartlett.

The treasurer's report for 1924 show the receipts to be $31,260. This report also shows a balance in bank at close of year to be $15,500.

The report of the assessors gives these items: Real estate, personal and poll taxes amounting to $11,411. The total valuation of personal and real estate in the town was $607,000. Number of horses assessed, 34; cows, 42, sheep, 11, neat cattle, 9, swine, 8, fowls, 185, dwelling houses, 48, acres of land, 5,714.

Referring back to old records it is shown that April, 1823 this town was divided into two school districts. The following year a third school district was added and a new schoolhouse erected at "four corners" by the building committee consisting of Hosea Ballou, John Hicks, and David Caneday.

The school report shows total number of pupils in 1924 to have been 36—21 boys and 15 girls—attending the two schools of the town. Cost of transporting scholars to and from school $500, for elementary, and for high school scholars $96.

In 1848, it was decided to erect a new town-house as near the center of the town as possible, and to use for this purpose the surplus money received from the United States treasury. This building was erected and served both as a town-house and hall in which religious services were held. No church edifice has been erected in the town, however the Universalists under Rev. David Ballou formed a society which was kept up forty years or more. The Baptists had a society forty years ago and held regular services in rented buildings at last accounts.

Monroe Bridge—This is a postoffice village or settlement that

has grown up since 1886, as a result of the James Ramage Paper Company, makers of pulp and manila paper, used largely in box-making. Soon the place began to grow and in 1892 it had a post-office, town-house, two stores, and other business places. The paper company was located near the narrow gauge railroad built through the valley by an organization capitalized at $500,000, with James Ramage as its president. The pulp mill mentioned had a capacity of five tons per day, while the paper mill made six tons daily and the two plants employed sixty-five workmen. The last census gave this village a population of 301.

Town of Heath—This town is third from the west, bordering on the Vermont line, and has Colerain for its eastern boundary, while south and west are Charlemont and Rowe. Originally, the greater part of Heath belonged to Charlemont, but after the Revolution, Col. Hugh Maxwell was sent to the General Court at Boston and procured the formation of a new town which was incorporated February 14, 1785. Its name was bestowed as a compliment to General William Heath, of Roxbury. The town was not fully organized until the following spring. On account of its soil and surface, this town has usually depended largely on farming and stock raising for its livelihood. Its principal streams are West Branch Brook and its tributaries. These are all small streams affording water enough to supply the town, but not sufficient to give other than a small water-power.

This town contained one of the stockades (sometimes called forts) erected in 1744, in the northern part of Berkshire and Franklin counties, by the province in defense against the Indians. This "fort" in Heath was named Fort Shirley, in honor of the governor of the province.

Land Titles and Settlers—The part then embraced in Charlemont, was settled by men already named in the town history of Charlemont. These settlements were made as early as 1754, but the more permanent settlements came in 1760-65. Jonathan Taylor, who had lived in the fort was the original settler in these parts. Among the family names tracing back to the pioneer settlement times, are recalled the Whites, Maxwells, Leonard Taylor, William Buck, the Temples, and the Goulds.

Civil Government—The first called meeting in the Town of Heath was held at a schoolhouse near Solomon Hayward's, March 21, 1785. The first town officers include these: Town clerk—

James White; selectmen—James White, William Buck, and Joseph Butler. Passing over the years to the present day, it may be said that the interests of this town are now looked after by the following: Selectmen and assessors—Henry Stetson, Jesse Thompson, and Frank Burrington; clerk and treasurer—Horatio Dickinson; constable—Hugh Thompson; auditor—Oscar Thompson; tree-warden—S. G. Benson; school committee—Herbert Stetson, Herbert Dixon, and Ernest Kinsman.

The treasurer's report for 1924 shows items as follows: Balance on hand and received for 1924, $16,242. Paid out, $13,208; balance on hand January 1, 1925 $3,034. Of the school accounts it is said that in 1924 there were receipts amounting to $8,583 and disbursements amounting to the same, showing no balance on hand.

The total valuation of all personal and real estate in the town in 1924 was $362,007. Number assessed for poll tax only, 24; number non-residents assessed, 67; residents assessed, 113; polls assessed, 106; horse, 143; cows, 399; neat cattle, 295; swine, 41; sheep, 85; fowls, 1,011. The total number of acres of land assessed, 14,843.

In the school report it is shown that there were in 1924 four schools in the town—North, Branch, Center, and West School. Total enrollment, 53; average attendance, 44. Amount paid for transporting pupils to and from schoolhouses, $2,012.80.

The list of present day industries within this town is not long. In the first years of the last century, about 1800, on Avery Brook, Ephraim Hastings built a small grist-mill, operated by Thomas White. Col. David Snow had a saw mill near the above mill. At the hamlet, Enos Adams built a tannery in 1820. Saw mills, grist-mills, and tanneries were about the extent of industries in this town. Besides a cluster of houses around the mills at Holland Dell, the only hamlet in the town is Heath. Locally, this place has long been known as Middle Heath. The population of the place in 1840 was 1,200. The village in 1920 had 350 population. The town then had 503.

Of churches let it be said that a Baptist church was formed in 1801 and the Unitarian organized in 1825.

Among the celebrated men who have gone forth from the Town of Heath was Dr. Josiah Gilbert Holland, who came to the town when three years old and was educated in its public schools, later graduating from the Berkshire County Medical College and in 1849, became associated with Samuel Bowles and others on the "Springfield Republican;" wrote books of poems and died in 1881,

J. G. Holland

after having edited Scribner's Magazine and Century Magazine for a number of years.

Town of Leyden—Leyden, one of Franklin County's smallest sub-divisions had a population in 1920 of 350. It is bounded on the north by the Vermont State line, south by Greenfield, east by Bernardston, and west by Colerain. The only stream of much size within this town is Green River which flows along the western border. The nearest railway stations are Bernardston and Greenfield. The town is made up of a series of hills and vales. The lover of landscape scenes can here have a perpetual feast on the beautiful scenes of nature. In the western portion one can view the domain of the States of Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Connecticut.

A Natural Curiosity—Leyden Glen, on the south near the Greenfield line, is a charming place to visit at any season of the year. Here the brook has worn a passage through the rocks. The gorge which is forty or more rods long, is a wild romantic spot, while the beautiful glen adds to the attractiveness. At the end of the glen the waters of the brook are confined within the limits of two reservoirs from which the population of Greenfield obtains their water supply. Another curiosity of the town is "Hanging Rock," on the Jonathan Budington farm. This rock weighs more than twenty ton and is so balanced that the slightest pressure will sway it.

Settlement—This town was set off from Bernardston Town, in 1784, hence its early history is the same as given in that town. An old record gives the names of the following persons as having settled in Leyden district in the years 1784, 1785, 1787, and 1788. In 1784, John B. Demontal and family; David and Alexander Moore and family; Sylvester Crandall and family; John Wells and Desire, his wife and children; in 1785 came Joshua Noyes, and family; 1787 John Saunders, Peter Brown, Jabez Knapp, and Joseph Engley. Others came in soon after the above dates.

Among men of mark who once lived in this town were these: Henry Kirke Brown, a noted sculptor, and John L. Riddell, inventor of the binocular microscope and magnifying glass.

Organization—March 12, 1784, Leyden was set apart from the Town of Bernardston into a district by itself. The new town or district was named after Leyden in Holland, where the Puritan ancestors of many of the settlers of Massachusetts lived before coming to this country. The first town meeting was held April

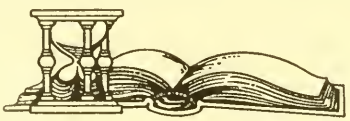
26, 1784. Without giving the long list of selectmen and town officers who have served during all these years, the officers for 1924 are here noted: Selectmen—W. A. Campbell, W. J. Black, E. P. Tabor; clerk and town treasurer—E. P. Howes; assessors—H. W. Severance, A. A. Phillips, John Glabach; auditor—Elizabeth Black; tax-collector—C. F. Severance; constable—J. H. Newcomb.

The treasurer's report shows the town's resources in 1924 to have been $26,192 and its expenditure was $26,192, less the $853 cash on hand.

The school report shows number pupils enrolled, 65; high school pupils, 19; average attendance, 51; the number of schools was five as follows: Center, East, Beaver, Meadow, West, and South School. Total salaries paid, $4,250; total grade enrollment, 51.

Villages—Leyden Center is the only village within this town dignified by the establishment of a postoffice. The only church building in the town is the one at this village. A store and cheese factory were in operation there forty years ago. Beaver Meadow Settlement, in the northeast part of the town is a small village surrounded by a fine, well developed farming section.

Churches—The first church organized in this town was the Baptist who erected a church building in 1797. This denomination was strong in pioneer days in this section, but later others took the field. Congregational, Universalist and Methodist each had their followers but no regular churches were established. These denominations worshiped in union services with the Baptists many years. About 1850 the Baptist society was dissolved and the building was torn down. In 1810 the Methodist church was formed. In 1867, the Universalists organized with twenty-four members. Leyden up to 1880, had sent out nine of her sons as Methodist ministers and four as Universalists besides sending forth eleven physicians. At present union services are held within the town.



CHAPTER XI

TOWN HISTORIES—CONTINUED

Town of Montague—Beyond the rocky range of mountains to the east of Greenfield lies Montague, containing within her borders the important villages of Turners Falls and Millers Falls, and Lake Pleasant besides lesser localities such as Montague City and the Center. With the Connecticut at the west and Millers River in the northeast, Montague is well supplied with water privileges. The railroad facilities are equally good—the Boston and Maine, as well as the New London Northern running through the town, with stations at various points.

The earliest grant of land in what is now Montague was under date of March 23, 1716, when the privilege of the stream in Sunderland at first called Swampfield, was granted to Benjamin Munn, Edward Alling, Jr., Daniel Beamon, Edward Alling and Nathaniel Frary. They were to build on Saw Mill Creek a mill for getting out lumber and were to have what timber was needed for the construction of their mill and they were also bound not to impede the erection of a corn mill on the stream just named. To further aid them they were allowed thirty acres of land in the town. This tract is now known as Montague Center. The first permanent settler was a Mr. Marsh, who probably arrived in 1726, and at about the same date came one Taylor. Other pioneer settlers were Ellis, Root, Harvey, Montague, King, Tuttle, Bartlett, Benjamin, Burnham, Wright, Rowe, Taft, Green, and Clapp many of which families have descendants here at the present time.

Montague was incorporated December 22, 1753, and given the name of Montague in honor of Captain William Montague, commander of the "Mermaid," at the taking of Cape Breton. While the town was legally incorporated in 1753, there appears no record of its government until 1756 when a town meeting is recorded.

In 1770 Joseph Root was an inn-keeper; Martin Root, his son, succeeded his father. The building was located in the village of Montague Center and was used many years as a hotel, but was finally utilized as a dwelling house. Other early business men were Moses Root, blacksmith; Mr. Esterbrooks, store-keeper; William Wells, physician; Jonathan Hartwell, lawyer; Martin

Gunn, postmaster. The first child born in the settlement was Elisha Root. Montague has had the usual number of churches including the Baptist, Congregational, Episcopal, Unitarian, Methodist and Roman Catholic.

The first ordained minister of the town was Rev. Judah Nash who settled in 1752 and a meeting house was erected the following year. For fifty-three years this minister faithfully cared for his flock, his death taking place in 1805.

The first mention of schools was in December, 1775 when it was voted to pay Asahel Gunn a certain amount for his wife to teach school. For many years this town has been up to modern standards in the matter of its public schools.

In 1873 a suspension bridge was placed across the Connecticut River, connecting Turners Falls with Greenfield, at a cost of $36,000. Another was built above the falls, connecting Turners Falls with Riverside in Gill. This structure cost $42,000 and was finished in December, 1878.

Montague City was settled by the Dutch, who here formed a colony in 1794. For nearly a quarter of a century Rector L. and D. W. Goss carried on a large lumber milling interest and made piano cases; at one time seventy-five men found employment in this place. Another large interest is the Montague City Rod Company, by Hazelton & Bartlett, makers of fishing tackle and implements, said to be one of the largest in the country. Another industry for years was brick-making.

Millers Falls is a thriving village on both sides of Millers River, in the towns of Montague and Erving. In 1892 it had 800 population. There are several churches and schools here. The place owes its growth largely to the activities of the Millers Falls Company which commenced its operations in 1868, and whose products included bit braces, wringers, etc. The promoters of this plant were Levi J. Gunn, Charles H. Amidon and Henry L. Pratt. Two hundred men found employment in this factory in the nineties. Later additions were made and machinists and household hardware articles were manufactured. The list of articles made in these works is indeed very long and their superior goods have found word-wide sale. Henry L. Pratt, and George E. Rogers were prominent factors in the company.

Another large business is that of the Millers Falls Paper Company the product of which goes all over the country.

Turners Falls—The history of improvement here commenced

in 1798 when the old canal was made which allowed navigation to pass up and down the Connecticut River, notwithstanding the great cataract at that point in the river. But its real industrial interests began at the close of the Civil War in 1865. The canal had gone out of use by 1856, having given way to the railway lines—a more rapid means of transportation. The old canal company, under a new name, began a greater undertaking. The Turners Falls Company was organized and the immense water power was developed to a wonderful extent. This transformation was started in earnest in 1866 when Colonel Alvah Crocker made plans for the building of a dam across the Connecticut River at the head of "Great Falls," as a water power. Today the stockholders of the Turners Falls Power and Electric Company are building a monument to the memory of Colonel Crocker and his associates in the further development of that great power, distributed for the use of the public within this commonwealth. The interesting history of the construction of the old dam made from '66 to '70 is all too lengthy for this chapter. Suffice to say that after no little effort on the part of Colonel Crocker and others, the John Russell Manufacturing Company, the Montague Paper Company and the Turners Falls Pulp Company purchased mill sites and leased permanent water privileges upon the power canal. Railroads were next induced to build to Turners Falls; the Keith Paper Company and the Griswold Cotton Mills located their plants there, and the total horse-power sold and being used by the five large corporations along the canal was 5,200, the same being utilized under a "head" of from 25 to 39 feet. Another paper mill was added by the Turners Falls Paper Company; the Clark and Chapman Machine Company also leased power rights and made improvements. In 1892 the Marshall Paper Company, now the Esleeck Manufacturing Company, purchased a location on the power canal and leased the first surplus water rights.

At this time (1925), the Turners Falls Power and Electric Company have assets amounting to $15,000,000, as against the property of the old "Upper Locks and Canals Company" of ninety years ago, valued at $150,000. The old company had annual gross receipts of $12,000 and the present corporation shows its receipts to be $2,200,000.

The present business interests of Turners Falls include these: Two banking houses—the Crocker National and the Crocker Institution For Savings; Electric Steel Product Company; two

brass foundries; brick works; cotton factory; three cutlery factories; directory publishers; drop forgings; hotels; the Esleeck Manufacturing Company; Griswold Manufacturing Company; Keith Paper Company; Martin Machine Company; McLane Silk Company; Montague Machine Company; Turners Falls Power and Electric Company; paper mill machine factory; the John Russell Cutlery Company; pulp and paper mill machinery; International Paper Company.

Turners Falls has a Chamber of Commerce; a public library of 11,000 books; a Masonic Lodge, Odd Fellows Lodge, Knights of Columbus. Its churches include the Baptist, First Congregational, Lutheran, Episcopal, Roman Catholic (three).

Its newspaper facilities at present consist of the "Advertiser" which is circulated weekly without charge. It is a Republican paper established in 1922. For many years the "Reporter" was published by the late Cecil T. Bagnal, and it was a paper widely quoted everywhere.

Concerning the Town government of Montague it may be said that the official report for 1924 says number of polls taxed within the town was—Turners Falls, 1,345; Montague City, 166; Millers Falls, 300; Montague Center, 289; Lake Pleasant, 20. Total valuation of the personal and real estate of the town was in 1924, $9,928,198. Tax rate $26, on a thousand dollar valuation.

The grand total value of all school buildings and their fixtures is $427,300. There are ten schoolhouses in the town.

The town treasurer's report shows receipts for 1924 to have been $569,273.43. The amount on hand as a balance January 1, 1925 was $13,245.88.

The town officers for 1924-25 were as follows: Moderator—Anthony J. Crean; town clerk—Henry D. Bardwell; treasurer—John J. McLaughlin; Tax-collector—John J. McLaughlin; selectmen—Henry E. Beaumier, Edward W. Bitzer, William J. Parsons; assessors—James F. Ryan, Daniel C. Donahue, John Bitzer; auditors—Homer L. Cole, T. Harold Reynolds and Charles J. Stotz; tree warden—Sigmund Klaiber; superintendent of schools—Joseph S. Keating; street superintendent—John E. Sullivan; clerk to town officers—Miss Margaret Callahan .

Lake Pleasant—This village is located in Montague town about seven miles southeast of Greenfield; is a station point on the Fitchburg division of the Boston & Maine railroad. For many

years this place has been the camp-meeting site for the New England Spiritualists Association. It was in 1870 that George W. Potter of Greenfield, bought a small piece of land at this place and cleared it off nicely, put in a few benches, and invited fifty of his friends there for a picnic. He also invited the editor of the "Franklin County Times" to attend and write the same up in his paper. Thus was Lake Pleasant opened to the public as a place of comfort and resort. Mr. Potter sold his interest to the railroad company and they made sundry improvements to attract passengers thither. In 1874-75 the Spiritualists of the state started a camp-meeting there and it has continued until the present time. In April, 1907 a fire here consumed $100,000 worth of property, burning a hundred frame houses.

Town of Northfield—This is one of the large and more populous towns of eastern Franklin. Its taxable area is 19,860 acres and it borders upon the States of Vermont and New Hampshire and has for its northern boundary parts of the southern lines of those states. On the south is the town of Erving, on the east the town of Warwick, and on the west the towns of Gill and Bernardston. The Connecticut River divides the northern portion of Northfield as far south as the southeast corner of Bernardston, from thence forms Northfield's western boundary.

The surface of the town is quite hilly, but on the west along the river, three stretches of fertile land are found with a deep alluvial soil. Besides the Connecticut River there are many lesser streams mostly of the mountain brook type. The hilly range extends through the town and there are many prominent eminences, including South Mountain, Crag Mountain and Beers' Mountain (the latter having been named for Richard Beers killed by the Indians in 1675 and buried near) on the south, and, passing farther north, Brush Round, Hemlock, Notch, Stratton, Pine and lesser mountains.

Clark's Island, in the Connecticut River, to the north of Northfield Farms, was granted to the town by William Clarke in 1686. Sometimes this island is called Field's Island and Stratton's Island.

Early Settlement—Early in the seventeenth century the territory now comprising Northfield town was occupied by the Squakheag Indians, and they were in possession of it as late as 1669, when in consequence of the failure of their expedition against the Mohawks, they abandoned the tract, and in 1669 a committee

appointed by the General Court to lay out a plantation at what is now Worcester reported that among other places they had discovered a place called "Suckquakege", on the Connecticut River, and they suggested to the court that the places discovered should be reserved to make towns, the better to strengthen "those inland parts." The Court approved the report, and ordered the lands mentioned to be reserved, and, in 1671, Joseph Parsons, Sr., William Janes, George Alexander, Caleb Pomeroy, Micha Mudge, and a few others, of Northampton, purchased this place called Suckquakege from the native claimants for "a valuable consideration." The tract contained in this land bought from the Indians there were 10,560 acres to which were added, in 1673, 3,000 acres more.

In May, 1672, the General Court authorized the laying out of a township upon the tract first purchased, conditioned that not less than twenty families should settle there within eighteen months. The petition took good care to provide for the preaching of the Word and the observances of the ordinances; and that a farm of 300 acres be reserved for "the use of the country." The grant was issued October, 1672 and was for at least six miles square. The committee attended to all these matters and made their report in the fall of 1672.

From a publication of Rev. John Hubbard, it appears that upon the tract, now known as Northfield, "settlers located in the spring of 1673, and built huts surrounded by a stockade and fort. In the center of their collection of huts they built one for public worship, and employed Elder William Janes as the preacher." The town plot was laid out at the southerly end of what is now known as Northfield Street, and the settlers who located there in 1673, and soon thereafter were Ralph Hutchinson, Elder William Janes, Robert Lyman, Cornelius Merry, John Hilyard, James Bennett, Joseph Dickinson, Micah Mudge, John Alexander, George Alexander, Samuel Wright, William Miller, Thomas Bascom, William Smeade, William Hurlbut, Jr., and Thomas Webster.

The settlers pursued their lives in peaceful security until early in 1675, when the Indians began to grow troublesome, and the news of the destruction of Brookfield, in August of this year, together with other depredations alarmed the Northfield people to such a degree that they abandoned their settlement and fled to Hadley in the latter part of the year. Nothing more was done by the white settlers in the vicinity of Northfield for seven years,

or until 1682, when the settlers commenced to come back and during 1683 there were forty families. Of the first settlers who had been at Northfield the first time, in 1673, Samuel Wright, Joseph Dickinson and James Bennett were killed by the Indians while others had abandoned their rights. But the most of those who left came back to make their second settlement. In about 1685 a substantial fort was built and John Clary, Jr., was given twenty acres of land as an encouragement to erect a grist mill on Mill Brook. The little settlement prospered for a brief period but was doomed to disappointment and partial destruction. King William's war broke out in 1689 and Northfield was one more deserted. Then Queen Anne's war came on in 1702 and continued more than ten years during which desolation prevailed at Northfield. Late in 1713 the Court granted that the town be named Northfield and that the prayer of the petitioners was heard and only had the proviso that within three years forty families should be settled there. But again trouble was becoming alarming and it was not long before the French and Indian wars came on and were not silenced until 1763, during which period the settlers at Northfield passed through much hardship, but withstood their ground and when that conflict ended better times were at hand.

In 1799 the fifth turnpike in Massachusetts, was largely built by Northfield men who organized and built a road from Northfield through Warwick, Orange, Athol and other towns.

Northfield bore a noble part in the war for Independence, as is seen on many a page of the town's record-books. When the revenue act was passed, imposing heavy duties upon the necessities and luxuries, the people at Northfield promptly resolved to forego the use of many of the articles upon which taxes were laid by the Mother country.

Northfield took no active part in the War of 1812-14, but Rufus Stratton went as an irregular delegate to the anti-war convention at Northampton, in July, 1812.

Organization—Northfield was incorporated June 15, 1723 after which time it conducted its own local government, electing its own officers. The town chose its clerk from the beginning of the third settlement, in 1714, and began to choose selectmen in 1718. The men chosen as selectmen in 1718 were Benoni Moore, Benjamin Wright, Peter Evans and Isaac Warner. The first town clerk was elected in 1714 in the person of Ebenezer Wright. All down through the years to today, as a rule, the best of men have

served as officers of this town and the improvements have been made with enterprise but nothing has been wasted in useless experiments. The present (1925) town officers are as follows: Clerk—Charles C Stearns; Treasurer—Frank W. Williams; selectmen—Fred A. Holton, Charles A. Parker, Frank H. Montague; school committee—Lester A. Polhemus, Mrs. Maud M. Montague, Dr. Roscoe H. Philbrick; assessors—Charles E. Leach, Alfred H. Mattoon, Joseph R. Colton; tax-collector—Leon R. Alexander; tree warden—Arnold H. Holton; town accountant—Charles S. Warner; chief of fire department—James W. Alger; forest fire warden—Thomas H. Parker; road superintendent—Edward M. Morgan; pound-keeper—Lucky O. Clapp.

The report of the town school committee, shows the town has a total of 344 pupils in the public schools. The present superintendent is E. J. Best.

The public library contains about 8,550 books. The present librarian is Mrs. C. A. Randall.

The assessor's report shows the total valuation of real estate in the town to be $1,543,181; of personal property, $313,747. Tax rate per thousand dollars $30.40. Number assessed polls in town, 480. Amount appropriated for schools last year, $28,500. Amount appropriated for the poor $2,300.

The villages within this town are Northfield, East Northfield, West Northfield and Northfield Farms. The village of Northfield is at the southern end of a mile-long street with residences on either side, and there is a Congregational church, the public library and several business houses, and also a postoffice.

East Northfield is the seat of the Girl's Preparatory School, one of Evangelist Moody's educational institutions which has country-wide fame. The Connecticut River flows along the village front and majestic hills, rearing their heads in the near back-ground and in the distance as far as the eye can reach, complete a picture such as only nature can produce.

The first church in the village was the one on the line between Northfield and East Northfield, and tradition says that in 1688 Rev. William Mather was sent from Northampton "to be the minister half the year at Northfield." The first meetings were held as the records say, "in the Meetinghouse Oak," which stood at the lower end of the village and was accidentally burned in 1869. The first church building was erected in 1716 when Rev. James Whitmore became pastor. During the history of the place

Northfield has had societies of the following denominations: The Congregational, 1763; the Second Congregational in 1825; the Methodist Episcopal, organized 1810, continuing until 1844; the Baptist at Northfield Farms, 1829 to 1846; the Unitarian and Roman Catholic.

The schools have been well sustained here for generations. The first of which there appears any record was in 1721 when the wife of Ebenezer Field, the blacksmith, taught a select school at her house, and charged "fourpence each week per scholar." The first school building was erected in 1736 and another in 1748. The town used but one schoolhouse at a time until 1781. What was styled the Northfield Academy of Useful Knowledge was incorporated in 1829 and was opened in Hunt's Hall in the old village. This institution under various managements existed until 1843. In 1878 the town had thirteen district schools. See official report of town for 1924-25 for present schools.

Industries—This is a rich agricultural town and aside from its educational institutions which spend a large sum annually, the people subsist largely from the cultivation of the soil. For many years the tobacco crop was a large and profitable one in this town. In 1875 the reports gave the products of the soil for that year as $267, 876, while its manufactories had but $59,876. The number of farms at that date was 269. There have from time to time been several saw mills and a factory making cultivators and other tools, but little manufacturing is now going on.

Northfield has come to be a well known summer resort and is visited annually by thousands who come to take advantage of the various religious gatherings connected with church, school and missionary work. The Hotel Northfield is a spacious, well managed hotel with hundreds of rooms. Here gather many noted men and women from all parts of the world. For many years it has been under the management and direction of members of the Dwight L. Moody family.

The Moody Institutions—On the beautiful crest of what is known as "Round Top" in East Northfield, may be seen two small, modest tomb-stones—one bearing the name of Dwight Lyman Moody and the other the name of his wife. This is a private burial plot and the graves are surrounded by a plain iron fence and nothing around the simple enclosure would indicate that here rest the ashes of one of the greatest evangelists the earth has

ever seen. Really, the monument to his memory is to be seen but a few rods distant in the large group of Seminary buildings, of the great Young Ladies' Seminary Mr. Moody founded there almost within stone's throw of his birthplace, which building is still standing and used as a museum, also occupied by members of the faculty; in it lived and died Mr. Moody's sainted mother.

Of the Seminary it should be briefly noted that in 1879 Mr. Moody associated himself with others and purchased several tracts of land, suited in location and topography for the ideal school Mr. Moody wanted to found. The present total acreage of the campus is two hundred and seventy-nine. The seminary buildings now include the following: Kenarden Hall, the Administration building dedicated 1913; Stone Hall, completed in 1885; Home Science Hall, dedicated 1907; Talcott Library, opened 1888; Skinner Gymnasium, 1895; Russell Sage Chapel, erected 1909, gift of Mrs. Sage in memory of her husband; Margaret Olivia Music Hall, 1909, also gift from Mrs. Sage; Betsey Moody Cottage, named for Mr. Moody's mother, opened in 1890; Auditorium in which great conferences and meetings are annually held; it was built in 1894 and holds 2,500 people; The Birthplace, which house was bought and restored, and presented to the Seminary in 1921 by Fleming H. Revell of the board of trustees, is used as a Teachers' Club House. Here Mr. Moody was born and spent his boyhood days.

The halls of residence include these: East Hall, 1880; Frederick Marquand Memorial Hall, 1885; Weston Hall, 1887; Moore Cottage, 1899; gift of Helen Gould, largest on the grounds; Revell, Holton, Hillside and Connecticut are four smaller buildings. A power plant furnishes both light and heat for the entire place, including steam laundry.

The land belonging to the Seminary consists of six hundred acres of woodland, tillable acreage, and orchards. The farm is stocked with horses and cattle. Holstein cows provide an abundant supply of milk. The recent reports show an attendance of 575 girls during 1924. The number of graduates last year was fifty-five.

The total assets of the Northfield Schools—Mount Hermon for boys and Northfield for girls, amount to $4,971,828. The history of the school for boys at Mount Hermon, in the town of Gill is given in its proper place among the towns of the country.

Mr. Moody passed from the scenes of life at his home in East

Northfield, on Friday, the last week in December, 1899, and was buried on the 26th of that month, at a spot he had designated, on "Round Top", very close to his birthplace and the home he last occupied. The summer schools and "Summer Conferences" at Northfield, draw their thousands each season—from ten to fifteen thousand of late years come from many parts of the world to be present at these great religious gatherings.

Town of Orange—Orange is the third in population of the twenty-six towns in Franklin County. It lies on the eastern border and is bounded on the north by the town of Warwick and the county of Worcester, on the south by the town of New Salem, on the east by Worcester County and on the west by Warwick, Wendell, and Erving. The Fitchburg division of the Boston & Maine railroad follows the course of the Millers River, entering the town on the east, and crosses it in a northern direction. Beside Millers River the streams are Tully River, Cheney Brook in the east, Orcott and Moss brooks in the west, and Gulf, Shingle Swamp, and Red brooks in the south, all of which furnish an excellent water power. In the east there is a large pond at Furnace Village, and Packards Pond at Fryville, both of which connect with Tully River. North Pond, in the south, has an area of nearly seventy acres, and is the head-spring of Swift River. The highest point of elevation in the town is Big Tully Mountain in the northeast.

Early Settlers—Settlement in the tract including what is now the town of Orange, Athol, Warwick, etc. were very small and limited to a small scope of territory prior to 1750, and not to any considerable extent until 1762. In the last named year Jacob Hutchins located on the eastern part of a grant of land including 325 acres. This grant was issued by the General Court to Rev. Benjamin Ruggles, of Middleborough, in 1752 and becoming in March 1762, a portion of Athol, and, was in 1783 included in the district of Orange. As early as 1747 Ezekiel Wallingford effected his settlement and was long afterward killed by the Indians. Ichabod Dexter, of Rochester, Massachusetts, bought the right to Wallingford's land, and lived upon it many years after which he located in Warwick. Near him located Samuel Ruggles in 1780 and Lemuel Ruggles in 1786. Seth Ellis settled in 1784, on the west side of Tully's Meadows. The "Goodell place", in the southeast part of town, was occupied by Zini Goodell in 1787 and later

years was occupied by his great-grand-children. Other pioneers included the Cheneys, Leggs, Fosketts, Goddards, Lords, and Briggs families.

The first dam across the waters of Millers River, at Orange, was doubtless the one constructed by James Holmes, in 1790. During that year he built a saw and grist-mill. In 1804 a carding mill was set in operation at this place. In common with all Western Massachusetts, the people here did not enthuse over the War of 1812 and offered a bounty of $12 per man to go as substitute.

In 1837 a large tract of land south of Millers River, and embracing the northern portion of New Salem, as well as the eastern portion of Erving's grant, was annexed to Orange. This was done for the pupose of bringing South Orange nearer the center of the town; for it was in that year that, owing to the important growth of South Orange, the seat of town government was removed to that village from Orange (now North Orange) and a town hall was built there. Before annexation referred to, Millers River was the southern boundary of the town. In 1845 the name of Orange Village, the place of early settlement, was changed to North Orange, and that of South Orange to Orange Centre.

By the side of the highway, south of North Orange, and near the old burying grounds a stone was erected to mark the spot where Mrs. Wheelock, an aged resident of Orange, was killed in 1820 by being thrown from her carriage.

Organization—October 15, 1783, the southeastern part of the town of Warwick, and a tract known as Ervingshire, lying on the north side of Millers River, in the county of Hampshire, and other territory, were joined by act of the Legislature, and erected into a separate district by the name of Orange. The district was named in honor of William, prince of Orange, and its first public meeting was held November 24, 1783. February 21, 1810, the district was incorporated as a town, and the first town meeting held April 2, 1810. The only villages of importance within this town are Orange Centre and North Orange.

Churches—Among the church denominations of early and later years should be named the Congregational, Universalist, and Methodist churches. Union services were frequently held in pioneer times. The First Congregational church was established in 1781 by Nathan Goddard and thirty-three others. In 1822 the Unitarian element predominating, Rev. Joshua Chandler, a Unitarian minister, was installed and served until 1827. The Second Universalist

church in Orange was re-organized in 1858. The Third Congregational church was established in 1843. A Methodist Episcopal church or rather "a class" was organized in 1795, and consisted of twelve members. In 1853 a second Methodist class was formed in what is now West Orange, but both of these churches passed out of existence many years since. A Baptist church was organized with twenty-nine members in 1834, but ony existed until 1860, but in 1870 was re-organized and erected a $10,000 edifice. In 1833 a union meeting-house was built in Orange Centre. The First Universalist church was organized in 1858. The Central Evangelical church of Orange Centre was formed in 1846 with fifteen members. Until 1851 it was known as the "Village Church."

The present-day religious organizations in the town include these: First Baptist, Wheeler Baptist, Central Congregational, Congregational, the Swedish Evangelical, Lutheran, Methodist Episcopal, Universalist and Roman Catholic.

Schools—The records in educational affairs in this town run back as far as 1784. In 1791 the town was divided into five school districts, or wards, and in 1800 the total amount raised for school purposes was $1,000. By 1878 there were in the town a high school, grammar school, an intermediate school, first and second primary and eleven district schools. The present year (1924) reports show the enrollment of pupils to be: High school, 256; Central school, 405; South school, 159; Cheney school, 108; Whitney school, 52; North Orange school, 13; Tully school, 14. The total number of pupils was 1,007. Number of boys, 469; number of girls, 538. The superintendent is Josiah S. McCann.

Public Library—Ever since 1859 Orange has had a creditable library. The present "Wheeler Memorial Library" is a credit to any community who might possess it. It is indeed a worthy monument to two persons, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Wheeler who were always interested in the welfare of Orange. The cost of building and furnishings was $52,000 and was really the gift of Almira Wheeler Thompson, in memory of her husband John W. Wheeler. The number of books now on shelves is 15,443. Since the library has been known as the Wheeler Memorial Library there has only been but one librarian—N. Gertrude Hendrickson. This institution was dedicated April 17, 1914.

The headquarters for the Orange Historical and Antiquarian Society are kept in the library building.

Banking Interests—The banking of Orange is well looked after

at this time by the Orange National Bank, the Orange Savings Bank and the Orange Co-operative Bank. The last named was established in 1889; the Orange Savings Bank was organized in 1871, and now has resources and liabilities amounting to $3,621,-153. The present executive officers are: Augustus J. Fisher, president; vice-presidents, Harry C. Gates; Edward M. Buell; clerk of corporation, Harry C. Gates, and Geo. W. Andrews, treasurer. The Orange National Bank, organized in 1873, now has a capital of $100,000 and surplus for the same amount. April, 1925 it had resources and liabilities amounting to $1,826,225. Present officers are Frank A. Howe, president; E. E. Gridley, vice-president; Franklin H. Gath, cashier.

Newspapers—"The Journal of Industry" was established at Orange by B. F. Stevens in 1871, and was still flourishing in 1880, but later merged with the present newspaper, the "Enterprise and Journal," established in 1872; is issued each Friday; is independent in politics and has about 1,800 circulation.

The Masonic and Independent Order of Odd Fellows each have strong lodges at Orange, the former organizing in 1860 and the latter in 1878. The Edward Gerrish Post, No. 17, Grand Army of the Republic, was organized in 1865, among the first of the order. Also the Knights of Pythias, Red Men of America and Knights of Columbus.

In military matters Orange has ever been in the forefront with her men and money in the various wars in which the country has been plunged. In the Civil War it sent forth one hundred and fifty men and of the number, thirty-eight sacrificed their lives. In honor to their memory the citizens of the town erected a handsome soldiers' monument in the cemetery at Orange Centre, which was dedicated in 1870. It is a massive shaft of Maine granite rising to the elevation of forty feet. The names of the soldiers who lost their lives in battle and prison-pens, are inscribed on the base of this monument. Other parts of this work will mention the part the town took in later conflicts.

Industries—The life and vigor of Orange have been its numerous manufacturing institutions. Forty years ago and more, it had the Gold Medal Sewing Machine factory (now the New Home Sewing Machine Company's works) of which later account is given; the Rodney Hunt Machine Company, makers of heavy machinery, including turbine water-wheels; the Orange Iron Foundry Company;

the chair and ladder factory; the Chase Turbine Wheel Company and lesser plants.

Today (1925) the industries are inclusive of these plants: The apron factory, box-factory, the Sprague clothing factory, Adell Manufacturing Company makers of hardware specialties, Athol Gas and Electric Company, the Co-operative Furniture Company, Textile Roll and Supply Company, Union Tool Company, New Home Sewing Machine Works, Minute Tapioca Company, Leavitt Machine Company, Chase Turbine Water-Wheel Company, Hunt Rodney Machine Company, the Bogert & Hopper Company.

The New Home Sewing Machine Company—The business of this concern was commenced in 1860 under the name of Clark & Barker, who employed two other men as workmen. They made the New England "single-thread hand sewing machine." In 1865 the works were enlarged and what was known as the Gold Medal Sewing Machine was manufactured, and in 1870 the Home machine was placed on sale and 1882 the name of the company was changed to "The New Home Sewing Company." The present (1925) floor space is about fourteen acres. Present capacity of plant is 185,000 machines yearly. The products are sold in this country, Canada, Mexico, South America, Japan, Australia, France, and Great Britain, with offices in nearly every country on the globe. Five hundred men are steadily employed in these works. During the World War this company had a million and a quarter dollars worth of contracts to provide shells and other supplies for the army, and ran two shifts of men, totalling six hundred.

This plant is run by the 500-horse power derived from Millers River. The company commenced business in 1860 on a capital of $15,000 and now is being operated under a capital of $3,000,000. The wood work of these machines is made at the branch at Williamsport, Pennsylvania. Approximately 10,000 salesmen and agents throughout the world look after the sales and collections of this great company.

Finances and Officers—The 1924 balance sheet of the town treasurer shows cash in bank, January 1, 1925, $23,641; accounts receivable, $61,017; department bills, $5,727; bills receivable, $3,200—total $93,586.

The personal property assessed was $1,204,715; real estate $191,000; rate of taxation $30 per thousand dollars; number of polls assessed in 1924, 1,788; horses assessed, 310; cows assessed, 552; neat cattle assessed, 182; sheep, 13; goats, 10; swine, 42; fowls,

3,695; dwelling houses assessed, 1,261; number acres of land assessed, 20,469. The town has liabilities and resources amounting to $238,215.

The 1924-25 town officers are inclusive of these: Selectmen—George M. Underwood, Edward J. Cadwell, Thomas F. Haley; town clerk and treasurer—Robert H. Anderson; assessors—R. B. Leavitt, Carl N. Stowell, Edward J. Cadwell; tax-collector—Fred A. Lamb; tree warden—Charles S. Hanson; chief of police—Henry J. Rogers; park commissioners—John A. McKenna, Rollin O. White, Herbert L. Gates; street superintendent—Thomas F. Haley; night officer—Henry J. Rogers.

Town of Bernardston—This is one of the northern towns of Franklin County, bordering upon the State of Vermont, and has upon its south the towns of Greenfield and Gill, upon the east the town of Northfield and upon the west the town of Leyden An important stream, Fall River enters the town in the north, at North Bernardston, and, flowing almost due south, empties into the Connecticut River at Turners Falls. The Boston and Maine railway enters the town in the southwest, and passes out on the south line of Northfield. This town has an area of about five miles square, covering about 16,000 acres.

The Fall River affords beautiful scenery. West Mountain overlooks the village of Bernardston on the west. It has an elevation of 780 feet. Bald Mountain, in the northwest, is still higher; and Wild Cat Mountain, north of West Mountain is somewhat lower in its altitude.

Early Settlement—In November 1734 a petition signed by a large number of would-be settlers was presented the General Court and it was approved in June, 1735 and confirmed in 1736, replying to the request which read as follows: "A petition of Samuel Hunt, of Billerica, for himself and other survivors of the officers and soldiers that belonged to the company of Captain Turner, and the representatives of them that are dead, showing that the said company in 1676 engaged the Indian enemy at a place above described, and destroyed above three hundred of them, and, therefore, praying that this court would grant them a tract of land above Deerfield, suitable to make a township." The Court authorized the proprietors to hold their first meeting at the house of Benjamin Stebbins, in Northampton, and chose Ebenezer Pomeroy moderator and clerk. The place was first called Falls Fight township, and it was so known until October, 1741 when the name Falltown

was substituted. It was so called until its incorporation in 1762 when it took on the name of Bernardston. In May, 1737 the proprietors numbered ninety-seven. At a meeting held in Deerfield in the fall of 1737 it was decided to build a saw mill and they selected Joseph Mitchell to do such work and for the same he was given the exclusive milling privileges of that part of Fall River. The only condition other was that should the said Mitchell also erect a grist-mill that he was to have exclusive rights. It appears, however, that nothing was done about building the grist-mill as late as 1740, when a new committee was elected to push forward the mill. The record shows that in 1742 the mill had not been built and a new committee met and instructed that the mill be set up by "some meet person" within eighteen months.

Between 1745 and 1750 many settlers left on account of the Indian invasion.

In 1771 certain persons living in Bernardston petitioned the Court to be set off to Colerain, but a majority opposed the measure, although later in 1779, 2,576 acres of land belonging to the town of Bernardston, and lying west of Green River, were set off to Colerain. The first tavern in Bernardston was by Elijah (or Elisha) Sheldon in about 1760, near Huckle Hill. Dr. Polycarpus Cushman was the earliest doctor there; he came in 1777.

The first census taken in Bernardston was in 1765 when the population was 230. In 1862 the centennial celebration of the settlement anniversary of this town occurred and the people of adjourning towns swelled the number in attendance.

The citizens of this part of Franklin County were alive to their best interests during the Revolutionary War and sent her quota of men.

Organization—The town of Bernardston was incorporated March 6, 1762, taking its name from Francis Bernard, governor of the province. The original tract included what is now Bernardston and Leyden, a part of Colerain, then known as Falltown Gore, and a strip on the north, half a mile wide, later found to be in Vermont. To make good this land shortage, the General Court gave them 7,500 acres in what is now Florida town. The town of Leyden was set off in 1784, leaving Bernardston only twenty-four square miles.

Villages—A former historical account of this town speaks of its two villages in 1879 as follows:

"Of the two villages in the town, Bernardston on Fall River, and a

mile and a half from the Greenfield line, is the most important. It is a station on the Connecticut River Railroad, is the seat of town government, and peopled by a thrifty and prosperous class of farmers, whose neat and homelike residences materially beautify the village, which covers a broad sweep of river valley overlooked on both the east and west by towering hills. Here, too, are a fine town-house, built in 1877, at a cost of $3,000, Powers' Institute, Cushman Hall, Cushman Park, five churches, three stores, one hotel, and a large shoe-factory. The other village is North Bernardston, near the Vermont line, where there are a score of houses."

Churches and Schools—The first church building was finished in 1740, when twenty pounds Sterling were appropriated to pay a minister. The first pastor selected was Rev. John Norton, of Berlin, Connecticut. He was allowed the same as other town proprietors—one seventieth—of the land in the township for his "settlement." The Indian troubles came on and this pioneer minister was made a chaplain and abandoned his duties as pastor and just what became of his title to land in the town is not now certain. The religious element has always been one of a high order and church organizations have been very successful there to the present. The denominations here represented have been the Unitarian, Baptist, established in 1782; Methodists in 1799; the Universalists, Second Congregational, and others which survived a short time.

The earliest schools were kept about 1770. In the year 1784 the town was divided into districts, four in number, and each was to build its own school house. Through the bequest of a native son, Bernardston has been greatly blessed in having a perpetual income in way of a school fund made from the interest on $5,000 left by Edward E. Powers, and the Powers Institute, free to the inhabitants of Bernardston which was endowed by Mr. Powers for $5,000. Job Goodale, also a resident of the town, in 1836 gave the town $200 to be kept on interest until it amounted to $20,000 when its interest was to be used as a school fund and for library purposes and the care of the unfortunate poor of the town. Powers Institute was erected in 1856 at a cost of $6,700. Cushman Hall, a large boarding house was donated by Hon. Henry W. Cushman. Job Goodale established the Goodale Academy in 1833 which was merged with the Powers Institute in 1856. Mr. Cushman also established a public library. The last report of the public schools of this town, made in 1924 shows the total enrollment of pupils to be 232. Powers Institute had 68; total in grades, 144. The present superintendent is Everett J. Best.

The library has 10,000 volumes, as shown by the report of librarian M. Jennie Mackay.

The town treasurer's report shows for 1924 receipts $47,676; expenses, $47,676 less cash on hand January 1, 1925, $297.

The town officers for 1924-25, include these: Town clerk—Henry L. Crowell; Assessors—John W. Chapin, L. Dwight Slate, Melvin A. Denison; tax-collector—H. J. Foley; town treasurer—H. L. Crowell; selectmen—Melvin A. Denison, John W. Chapin and L. Dwight Slate.

Town of Gill—Near the geographical center of Franklin County is the town of Gill, situated in the great bend of the Connecticut River, by which, together with Fall River it is surrounded on three sides. It has an area of 8,396 acres. Bernardston and Northfield are on the north, Connecticut River separates it from Montague and Erving and on the east is the Connecticut River separating it from Northfield, and on the west Greenfield from which it is separated by Fall River.

The town of Gill is a beautiful landscape throughout its entire domain. Its mountain-like hills, its streams and charming valley scenes are ever a feast to the eye. Fall River, which flows along the entire western border of the town, unites its waters with the Connecticut at Turners Falls, where the noble old river rushes over jagged rocks, hurling its waters with resistless strength into the abyss below.

The Turners Falls Fight—About one year after the opening of King Philip's War, 1675, information was conveyed to Hadley that the Indians had located in force near Deerfield, where they had for some days been engaged in planting and on both sides of the Connecticut River many were fishing at the falls (now Turners Falls). Although King Philip was in Eastern Massachusetts, the Indians at the falls feared no attack from the whites, since they were aware that the English forces on the Connecticut had been materially weakened, and that they were scarcely prepared to make any aggressive movements. Nevertheless Captain William Turner (a citizen of Boston, who, earlier was captain of a company of Massachusetts troops, was at this time in command of the English troops at Hadley) determined to move on the savages in the absence of Philip and, having a force of 180 men at Hatfield, with Captain Samuel Holyoke, of Springfield, as his second in command, set out, on the evening of May 17, 1676 for the falls. Journeying all that night, Captain Turner and his command,

reached the banks of Fall River, at daybreak, and, dismounted, moved on rapidly to the falls. Their arrival was signalized by concentrated attack upon the unsuspecting and sleeping Indians, who, aroused from their slumbers by the roar of the English musketry, fled in confusion to the river and plunged in, some taking to their canoes, others swimming, while many sought safety under the overhanging rocks of the river's bank. Very few, however, managed to escape. Of those who were not slain at the first assault upon the encampment, it is supposed that 140 were either killed by trying to cross the river or carried over the falls to destruction. When the brief struggle was over, a hundred Indians lay dead upon the ground, and, according to historical authority, fully three hundred savages were destroyed on that occasion by the rolling flood and the English guns. The loss of the whites was but one man, so complete and thorough was the surprise, and so powerless were the Indians to attempt anything like a resistance.

Unhappily, the glorious victory was destined to be followed by a disastrous defeat. (For a full account thereof see chapter on King Philip's War, page 35, *et seq.*)

Early Settlement—At one time a greater portion of this town was included in Deerfield, and later a part of Greenfield, from which it was set off in 1793. It is believed that the farms east of the river were occupied by settlers prior to the Turners Falls Fight in 1776. The families first to locate there were the Howlands and Stacys. The next to settle there were those who came in after the Indian wars had ended. Early pioneers included the Severance and Brooks families. Among the permanent settlers—those who came in after quiet had been obtained, at least after 1776, when the Indians no longer harrassed the whites, the list of such includes David Wrisley and four men-grown sons. It was one of this family who laid the corner stone of Bunker Hill Monument. In 1776 the settlement had the following and possibly many others: the Childs, Combs, Field, Munn, Roberts, Richards, Allen, Stoughton, Smalley, and Shattuck. The first postmaster in the town was Benjamin Brainard; the first physician, Dr. Joel Lyons. Gill favored the cause of Shays' rebellion, and furnished men and means. In the War of 1812-14, in obedience to the Governor in his call for troops to defend Boston, this town contributed volunteers, and was the only town in Franklin County, besides Charlemont, that did send volunteers.

Organization—In May, 1793, the town of Greenfield voted to set off as the northeast district, that part of the town lying east of Fall River. In September that year it was incorporated with the name of Gill, in honor of Lieutenant-Governor Gill, who in return for such naming, presented the town, for its first meeting-house, nails, glass, a Bible, and a communion set. The only villages in the town are Mount Hermon, Riverside and Gill Centre, the oldest place of the town. More than forty years ago the village had two churches, a good town hall, completed in 1868, a store, public library, and a postoffice. Riverside, on the opposite side of Turners Falls, occupies the site of the historical fight in 1676 already mentioned at length. Large lumber mills and two stores were located there many years ago. A Methodist church was organized in 1803, and a building erected in 1826 at Gill Centre. The first school was probably built in the center of the town in 1793; the town was not divided into school districts until 1823. The town has had district schools and a good small town library for many years.

This town is purely an agricultural section, its manufacturing being confined largely to the mills at Riverside, which began operations in 1867. Forty thousand feet of lumber was the daily cut in 1880, and forty workmen were employed, but these industries have passed away.

The present town officers are as follows (1924): Town clerk and treasurer—Henry B. Barton; assessors—Frank W. Brown, C. C. Frissell, and Charles O. Bruce; tree warden—Warren R. Purple; tax collector—Richard L. Watson; auditors—William F. Nichols and S. Allen Norton; finance committee—Henry B. Barton, Peleg W. Eddy, Walter J. Marble.

The assessors report for 1924, shows tax on personal property $3,466.34; on real estate $15,024.34; tax levy—$19,008; tax rate $22 per thousand dollars; number of horses assessed, 165; cows, 405; sheep, 17; neat cattle, 142; swine, 65; dwellings, 186; number fowls assessed, 3,443.

Mount Hermon Boys' School—In an educational and religious line the town has nothing to compare to the Boys' School founded by the great evangelist, Dwight L. Moody. Here one finds five hundred youths assembled annually at what is termed Mount Hermon School For Boys. It was established in 1879 in the mind of its founder who had already established the Girls Seminary across the Connecticut River in East Northfield. In 1880 through

the aid of Hiram Camp of New Haven and others, Mr. Moody purchased 285 acres of land and two large farm houses, with ample barns, the total cost of which was $13,385. Later other lands were secured until now the tract contains four hundred acres. The first boy made application to become a student May 4, 1881. Several cottages were opened in 1883 after which sundry buildings were added to the group. The first class was graduated June 28, 1887 and it had but five members. The first large building, proper, was the Recitation Hall, a three story brick structure. Of the present of this excellent institution it may be said that:

Recitation Hall, one of the original buildings on the campus; Holbrook Hall, the "administration building", first used in 1908; Sillman Laboratory; James Memorial Gymnasium, dedicated 1910; Overtoun Hall, holds 116 students; Crossley Hall, erected 1911, accommodates 320 pupils; Camp Hall, government postoffice is located there for the Seminary; West Hall, first used 1909; Cottages—No. 1, originally for London, England, boys; No. 2, Monadnock House; No. 3, Music House; No. 4, Hubbard House; No. 5, Manchester House; Schauffler Memorial Library, dedicated February 5, 1913; Ford Cottage, overlooks the campus, first used 1912; Chapel, erected 1898, presented to Mr. Moody on his sixtieth birthday, 1898 by friends in Europe; Dwight's Home, a home for the sick, named for Mr. Moody's grandson, who died November 30, 1898; the power-house, barns and other buildings complete the buildings of the Boys' School at Mount Hermon. The school opened May, 1881; total enrollment 1923-24, 644; present enrollment 500. Thirty nationalities are here represented and thirty-five states and United States possessions. The landed estate around this school amounts to 1,223 acres and the buildings number 76.

Town of Sunderland—Sunderland is one of the extreme southern towns of Franklin County, is pleasantly situated on the Connecticut River, which forms its entire western boundary. The town of Montague is at its north, Hampshire County on the south, Leverett on the east, and Whately and Deerfield on the west. It is six miles long and two and a half miles wide, containg an area of fifteen square miles, or 9,600 acres. This part of the county is rich in natural scenery. The New London Northern Railroad crosses the town at its northeastern extremity, but the town has no station point within its domain. The smaller streams of the town include the Long Plain, Mohawk, Dry, Great Drain, and Cranberry brooks.

Early Settlement—The first step toward effecting a permanent settlement here was an act of the General Court in Boston, May 7, 1673, when the prayer of would-be proprietors was answered and the following men were appointed as a committee to organize and appoint suitable officers: Major John Pynchon, of Springfield, William Clarke, and William Holton. The securing of the extinguishment of the Indian title was entrusted to Major Pynchon who obtained the two important deeds April 10, 1674. The exact date of first settlement cannot be learned, but likely previous to the beginning of King Philip's war, in 1675.

By reason of numerous swamps, the place was known as "Swampfield," and such was it called until it was incorporated. The list, or even faint reference to whom the first settlers were in this town is not obtainable. Probably the little settlement where the village of Sunderland now stands, was broken up by the Indian war beginning in 1675, when settlers from this county fled to Hadley. The true settlement did not take place until 1715 and in 1716, the number of proprietors was thirty-nine. A long time intervened between the first settlers and the re-settlement in 1715. It is related that when the second lot of settlers came in they found ruined houses. In the fire-place of one was a bass wood tree growing which was a full foot in diameter, and an apple tree set out by one of the original pioneers in 1673, was found large and thrifty at the second settlement, and lived until 1850.

This town furnished men and means for the carrying on of the Revolutionary War, but did not enthuse much over the War of 1812-14. The part taken in other wars will appear elsewhere with other sections of this work.

A mail was established through this town in 1815, with William Delano as postmaster.

Organization—In May, 1718 the inhabitants of Swampfield presented a petition, claiming to have fulfilled the conditions of their grant, asked for more land, that a reservation of 250 acres be given them to promote a school, that they might be exempted from tax for five years, and that they might be an incorporated town. The name given is supposed to have been in honor of Charles Spencer of Sunderland, he who was an earl. In 1774 a tract of land on the east of the town was set off and incorporated into the town of Leverett. Sometime before 1753, Montague was set off as a new town.

The only village within this town is Sunderland, generally

known as Sunderland Street, where the first settlement was effected. The first bridge over the Connecticut River at this part of the county was built in 1812, the piers of which cost over $20,000. The nearest railway station is South Deerfield. A church was established in 1715 and the next year a church building was erected. Much trouble arose over the manner in which the church should be seated. Until 1737 the sexes were always apart during church service—men on one side of the house and women on the other. In 1734 the people were called together by means of a flag hung outside the meeting-house just prior to the hour for services to begin. That year "Widow Root received one pound Sterling to tend the flagg." Later a conch-shell was blown by a man, and in 1751 a church bell was procured.

A Baptist church in the northern part of the town was organized in 1822 near the Montague line. It was styled "Sutherland and Montague Baptist Church." Neither of these exists today.

The earliest school house was erected in 1731. This was burned in 1762. Up to 1749 it was used as an exclusive winter school. In 1791 the town was divided into three districts. Today the schools have a total membership of 328; average attendance 298; salaries range from $900 to $1,250. The 1924 superintendent of schools was Andrew S. Thompson. The grades are from one to eight inclusive.

Industries—This being almost entirely an agricultural section there are but few if any factories. At one time in North Sunderland, there were a few saw mills and a wicking factory, but these have long since ceased to operate. There are about 150 farms within the town, and as early as 1866, a large club of farmers met monthly for mutual benefit.

Town Officers, etc.—The official report shows the 1925 town officers to be: Selectmen—H. C. Pomeroy, F. W. Daily, P. F. Whitmore; town clerk—B. N. Fish; treasurer—A. W. Hubbard; assessors—G. A. Childs, Roger Warner, M. H. Williams; collector—R. B. Brown; auditor—Daisy B. Montague.

The assessors' report shows that in 1924 there were total valuations in the town amounting to $213,000, personal; $972,542, real estate; value of lands, $409,187; total valuation, $1,185,581; tax rate $26.50 per thousand dollars assessed valuation; number of residents, 280; number horses, 188; cows, 314; sheep, 2; neat cattle, 62; swine, 59; dwelling houses assessed, 243; number acres of land assessed, 7,677; number of fowls assessed, 1,400.

Town of Erving—One of the eastern towns in Franklin County is Erving, it is one of the smallest in territory of any within the county. It is bounded on the north by Northfield, south by Wendell and Montague, east by Warwick and a part of Orange and west by Montague and Gill, being separated from them by Millers River and the Connecticut. The town is crossed by the New London Northern railroad, and on the south by the Fitchburg line on which Erving is situated. Millers River is a rapid, powerful mill-stream which makes an abrupt descent of twelve feet, providing an excellent water-power for the manufacturing interests of the village of Erving and other points.

Settlement—The tract upon which this town is laid, two by twelve miles in dimension, was purchased by a company of proprietors from the Province in 1751, who shortly sold it to John Erving, of Boston, whose grant was confirmed by the court January, 1752. The earliest settlement made in that portion now known as Erving was probably made in 1801, when Colonel Asaph White, of Heath, located there, a solitary settler in a howling wilderness. In 1803 Mr. White threw a dam across Millers River, built a saw mill, and later opened a tavern. Before his removal in 1797 he was one of the incorporators of the second Massachusetts Turnpike Corporation and later one of the incorporators of the Fifth Turnpike Corporation. The settlements in that region of this county were quite scattering up to 1815. This territory was all called Erving's Grant until 1838 when it was incorporated as Erving, in honor of John Erving who bought the land from the first purchasers. It is the youngest town in the county, and Monroe came next; the date of incorporating the latter was 1822. The three villages in the town are Farley, Erving and Millers Falls, opposite Millers Falls village in Montague town. It was said of these villages in 1879, "Both Erving Center and Millers Falls village rest for their substantial support upon the interests of manufacture, which have prospered since 1868, and which promise to maintain and improve in time to come, the healthful growth and substance of both vilages." These predictions, and more too, have come true to these sections.

Congregational, Baptist and Universalist churches have all had a foot-hold in this town with the passing years.

The first interest taken in public schools was in 1815 when the grant was divided into three school districts and thirty dollars

allowed for teachers that year. Today the schools are fully up to the standard.

This town has its full share of fraternal societies, churches and clubs.

Its industries have been numerous, including lumber mills, sawing of railway ties, telegraph poles, etc. Among the men who have taken a keen interest in the manufacturing business of the town have been William B. Washburn & Company, lumber sash and doors; J. E. Stone & Sons, makers of piano cases, piano legs, billiard-table legs, both being pioneers in their line in this town. Others who have left their impress among the captains of industry here are Messrs. J. B. Farley, D. E. Farley, G. H. Monroe and others.

At Farley the only industry of considerable importance is the plant of the Lindale Paper Mill, which makes box-board its specialty.

At Millers Falls the present-day industry is the extensive manufacturing plant of the "Millers Falls Company." This concern are makers of a very large line of small tools sold through the hardware trade of this and foreign countries. The tools include braces, bits, drills, mitre-boxes, hack-saws, etc. This concern was started in the early sixties, by Levi J. Gunn and Charles Amidon, fellow-workmen in the employ of the Greenfield Tool Company, at Greenfield, who decided to venture out for themselves. At first they made wringers, but soon added other articles. Several fires crippled the company but they kept pressing onward until they were crowned by success. The start at what was then Grout's Corner was made in 1868, when they incorporated as Millers Falls Manufacturing Company. Its modern buildings are of the finest type. They occupy a floor space of six acres.

The various men who have been leaders and experts in their lines include the two former presidents, Henry L. Pratt, deceased, and Levi J. Gunn, deceased, the present president, Edward P. Stoughton, George E. Rogers, vice-president and general manager, Philip Rogers, assistant manager, George W. Nims, secretary and treasurer, William G. Stebbins, superintendent and Frederick H. Atwood, domestic sales manager.

The latest report given out as to their pay-roll shows that five hundred and twenty-eight men are now employed there.

Town of Wendell—One of the most uneven and hilly sub-divisions of Franklin County is the town of Wendell, bounded on the

north by Erving, south by Shutesbury and Leverett, east by Orange and New Salem, and west by Montague. In 1790 it had a population of 519 and in 1875 it only had 503. By 1810 it had increased to 983 population. In 1860 it declined to 704, in 1870 to 539, and in 1875 to 503. In 1920 its population was given by the United States census as 346.

Millers River forms the entire northern boundary line of the town, separating it from Erving, and about half the distance across the northern border the town is traversed by the Fitchburg division of the Boston & Maine railroad. The town measures about six and one-half miles by five and one-half miles. Being rough and mountainous, the natural scenery is very charming to a lover of the wild and romantic landscape. Bear Mountain, 1,281 feet above the sea level, is one of the most elevated of the fifteen hills of the town. Mountain brooks abound throughout the entire territory. These include Swift River, Whetstone, Wickett, Osgood brooks.

Early Settlement—As early as 1754 Thomas Osgood, Richard Moore and William Larned, of New Salem, settled in the north part of the town. A little later a settlement was effected near Wickett Pond, by James Ross, Silas Wilder, Lemuel Beaman, Benjamin Glazier, John Wetherbee and likely a few others. One of the foremost settlers was Judge Joshua Green, of Boston, a graduate of Harvard in 1784. He came here in 1790, was a useful and public-spirited man and bore well his part as a good citizen until his death in 1847. But few if any of the descendants of the first settlers of this town remain today. Prior to 1784 one account states that there were an average of three marriages a year and the average number of births was fifteen. The town ordered its first stocks built in 1786 and a dog-pound was provided (thirty feet square) in 1787. In 1788 it was decided that no one could vote unless they owned a certain landed interest in the town. The Congregational church was organized in 1784. During the Revolution this town bore well her part in sending men as volunteers and substitutes who were paid a bounty. Its farmers furnished much beef and grain for the army. Wendell sent fifteen men to the defence of Boston in time of the War of 1812, although her enthusiasm was not strong concerning that war, as was true in many other places.

Organization—This town was incorporated May 8, 1781, and its territory provided for the erection of the northerly part of the

town of Shutesbury, and that part of a tract of land called Ervingshire lying on the south side of Millers River, "into a town by the name of Wendell." In accordance with an order from the Court, Moses Gunn was authorized to notify free-holders to meet for the election of town officers on June 14, 1781, at Deacon Jonathan Osgood's house. The town was named in honor of Judge Wendell of Boston, before mentioned. In 1803 a tract of land called "Benjamin Hill Gore," and a tract a mile in width, taken from Montague, were added to the original tract incorporated as Wendell.

The villages of this town have been Wendell Depot, a railway station having a postoffice and store accommodations, on the south bank of Millers River; Wendell Centre, the seat of the town government, which is four miles from the village of Wendell Depot. Forty years ago Wendell Centre had two churches, a good town hall, a postoffice, a hotel and was favored with many summer tourists who desired a high elevation in which to spend the heated months. Lock's Village, platted on the northern line of Shutesbury, is also a part of Wendell.

The Village of Farley is a station on the railroad and has been a busy manufacturing place, and is situated between Erving and Millers Falls. The pulp and paper mills of the Farley Paper Company were long ago located here. Spruce and poplar woods were used in large quantities for making paper-pulp. In the basement of this extensive plant, there was located in 1892, large knitting mills in which E. N. Tolman had an interest, and where twenty Lamb knitting machines were operated by as many men and women. The finishing was done in private homes of those residing in the village. Mittens, woolens and worsteds were also produced here. The works, nearly four hundred feet long, stand on the banks of Millers River. A postoffice and store building were among the improvements in 1892.

Present Town Government—The town reports for 1925 give the following concerning the affairs of the town at this time: The officers are: Selectmen—Charles M. Ballou, O. D. Baker, Charles H. Jennison; town clerk—Tremain W. Whelpley; treasurer—Fred C. White; tax-collector—Elias Richardson; auditor—Marion E. Whitney; assessors—Charles M. Ballou, O. D. Baker and Tremain W. Whelpley; tree-warden—George E. Mills; constable—Lon O. Taylor.

The school report shows the enrollment to be forty pupils;

number of teachers, two; number in high school, five; number of school weeks, thirty-six; number days school, 172.

The old records show that there was a schoolhouse in the town as early as 1872 and in 1873 the town was divided into four school districts, or squadrons as they were then known. In 1791 the will of Major William Erving gave to the town a school lot of 120 acres on Whetstone Hill, a mile west of Wendell Centre, and he set forth the reasons thus: "Thinking it of the highest consequence that learning should be preserved, for fear, from the great inattention thereto, that the people might relapse into a state of barbarism, I bequeath, etc."

Industries—For fifty years after this town was incorporated farming was the only source of gaining the livelihood needed by the people there. Then seven saw mills were set in operation at various dates and these brought a few more small industries, but in no large sense is this a manufacturing town.

At Wendell Depot, The Athol Gas and Electric Power Co. have a station, as well as one at Farley.

Town of Leverett—This town is in the southeastern portion of Franklin County; is bounded on the north by Montague, south by Amherst and Shutesbury, and west by Sunderland. The New London and Northern Railroad crosses its western border, and Saw Mill River its northeastern section. It has an area of 16,000 acres which domain is not more than one-half improved and forty years ago was said to be within a dense forest in many of its parts. Saw Mill River is the only stream of importance within its borders. Roaring Brook, in the southeast part, supplies excellent water-power. The timber consists largely of pine, but nearly every kind of timber found in New England grows to some extent here. In the seventies and eighties some traces of lead were discovered in the southern part of the town; a New York firm tried to make it a profitable enterprise but failed.

Settlement—As early as 1727 settlements were made in what was then the town of Sunderland. From that date to 1774 grants were made to Samuel Montague, Daniel Warner, Isaac Hubbard, Samuel Smith, Benjamin Graves, Joseph Field, Jonathan Field, and scores of others whose descendants still inhabit these parts. Perhaps the first of all real permanent settlements was effected by Messrs. Nathan Adams, Graves, Elisha Clary, Joel Smith, Moses Smith, Barnard Wilde, Absalom Scott, and those who were com-

panions in their settlement which was made in 1750. The first country road was laid out in 1774. The settlers were loyal to the cause of independence. It is shown that August 20, 1776, the town resolved to obtain a stock of powder and lead—half a pound for each effective able-bodied man. January 10, 1777, they passed a vote that "we risk our lives and fortunes in defense of our rights and liberties, wherewith God and nature hath made us free, and that we show our minds to the General Assembly of the State."

Organization—In 1773 the residents of the tract now occupied by Leverett, presented their petition to the Town of Sunderland, praying for the right to be set off into a new town, etc. This prayer was granted and the new town was incorporated March 5, 1774. It was named for John Leverett, president of Harvard University. As a general rule the best men have been elected to the various town offices. Those serving in 1924-25 are as follows: Clerk and treasurer—F. H. Taylor; selectmen—C. H. Beaman, W. F. Adams, R. N. Marvel; assessors—F. A. Glazier, O. C. Marvel, F. L. Morrison; tax-collector—F. H. Taylor; auditor—C. L. Putney; tree-warden—W. F. Adams.

The treasurer's report for 1924 shows receipts for all expenses,, $31,954.92; all liabilities the same amount including the cash on hand at the close of the year, $2,453.43.

The amount paid for the support of the poor was $492.73; for highways and bridges, $5,850. Paid for high school transportation, $1,331; for elementary school transportation of pupils for 1924, $1,268. Total expenditures for school purposes, $12,249. Received from the State and all other sources for schools, $7,908; net cost of schools, $5,039. The total number of students enrolled in 1924 was 160 in the seven schools.

The one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the town's incorporation was observed in 1924, on August 14th and 15th. $200 was appropriated by the selectmen for that purpose. Later $1,000 more was appropriated and the affair was a great success. All public buildings and many others, were beautifully decorated. The services commenced at the Congregational church and wound up with a grand street parade. It was estimated that more than eight thousand people were present there on the last evening.

Villages—This town has had in its history the villages of Leverett Centre, North Leverett, East Leverett and Moore's Corner. Leverett Centre is a station on the New London and Northern Rail-

road. In 1879 the place had a goodly number of dwellings, a postoffice, a church, the town hall; also one store, and the New England Box Company's factory. North Leverett, on Saw Mill River, near the Montague line, has a church, postoffice, saw mills, etc. At East Leverett there is a saw mill in operation and a retail store. The 1920 population was 695.

The first church in the settlement was the one established in 1774. In June, 1775, it was voted to provide for the raising of the church, and the call stated that "we provide meat and peas or beans, and some cake, if needed, for raising dinner or dinners; that we also have three barrels of cider, and that we make fourteen bushels of cake for raising said meeting-house, meaning any man whoever provides ye same, to settle with ye committee appointed for ye meeting-house work, and have his credit and pay for ye same. (In the church record from which the above was taken there is no explanation as to why they counted the cake by the "bushel").

The origin of the First Baptist church of North Leverett dates back to 1767. The first church building was erected in North Leverett in 1795.

The first school was voted for in 1774 and the following year a school building was erected. By 1875 the town had been divided into six independent school districts. Other facts about the later schools have already been given.

Town of Shutesbury—On the southern line of Franklin County is the Town of Shutesbury, named for former Governor Shute. It is bounded on the north by Wendell, on the south by Hampshire County, on the east by New Salem and Hampshire County, and on the west by Leverett and Hampshire County. It has no railway in its territory. Its streams are confined to small mountain brooks. It is a natural fruit and grass region and farming has been the largest source of revenue gained by its people throughout its history. In the north part of the town is found Mount Mineral Spring, famous in days long since gone by, for a resort place where invalids came in goodly numbers to take advantage of the medicinal waters. The large fine hotel which served the public many years before 1876, was during that year burned.

Settlement—This town was first settled in 1733 by a colony of nearly a hundred persons who had constructed a sort of a highway to shorten the road from New Hampshire to Boston. For this improvement they asked the General Court to grant them

certain lands for settling upon and for forming a town under the customs of the Province. This was granted in December, 1734, with the condition that sixty families should be living on such tract within four years. Also that the families should each have four acres of land under cultivation and a house of certain size ready to live in. October, 1735 it was voted to receive certain other settlers. The tract was more than six miles square and included besides what is now Shutesbury, the northern portion of Wendell and some on the east of New Salem. It was about six by ten miles in size. The first actual settlers were Jonathan Burt and Bazaiel Wilder. While the town never suffered from Indian depredations, yet a small fort was built and fenced with high pickets in 1748, near where later lived Rev. Abraham Hill.

Organization—The town was incorporated June 30, 1761. It has had its successes and failures, with the passing years, but generally speaking the affairs of the town have been well administered by good and industrious men. The villages found here after settlements developed have been Shutesbury Centre and Lock's Village, both having importance enough attached to their locality to have postoffices established there. The postoffice, however at Lock's was in the edge of Wendell Town. It was named Lock's from Jonas Lock, proprietor of the first grist mill, in 1754, close to the Wendell line. At the Centre there have been two or more churches, forty dwellings in 1880; one store, a school and a hotel. These hamlets never grew to any great extent.

The earliest church was established in 1735 by the town proprietors, but no building was finished until late in 1738. This building stood in Shutesbury Centre. Much trouble arose over the "royal" conduct of Rev. Hill when the Revolutionary War came on and he had to be forced from his pulpit and from the town, finally. The trouble left the church without a pastor until 1806. In the meantime the Baptists, Congregationalists, Unitarians, and Universalists combined and built a new meeting-house. The Baptists organized in Shutesbury in 1787, before they were attached to the New Salem church. The Universalists first organized in 1829 a regular church society. The Methodists formed their class in 1849 at Lock's Village and later they united with the Methodists at Wendell and Leverett.

Many attempts at maintaining a public school in this town were recorded before any regular school system was obtained. In

1784 the town decided to have organized five school districts; in 1791 the number was six and in 1878, forty-seven years ago, the town had seven districts with an average daily attendance of 95 scholars. As time went on the schools improved until today the schools in this part of the county are equal to those around them.

This is purely an agricultural section and outside of the saw mills no other industries have long survived.

Town of Warwick—Warwick with its many hills and intervening valleys, occupies the extreme northeastern corner of Franklin County, and has the State of New Hampshire on its northern boundary, Worcester County and the Town of Orange on the south, and Northfield and Erving on the west. Without a railway through its territory its nearest depot is six miles away at Wendell. The town has an area of 21,350 acres, embracing the entire territory once known as Gardner's Canada, except the section in the south part set off to Orange in 1781.

No town within the bounds of Franklin County is more mountainous than this one. About one mile northwest of the town's center is the highest mountain and here the elevation is 1,628 feet above the sea. Among the numerous streams that course their way through the town are Tully Brook, in the east, Valley Mountain and Kidder brooks, in the north, Hedge, Grace and Wilson brooks, in the central part. Originally, there were thirteen good sized ponds, Lake Moon being the largest. Wild and enchanting scenery greets the eye of the traveler as he passes by the hills and dales of this portion of the county. A natural curiosity is found in this town known as Bear's Den, near Stevens' mill-pond. The cavity which is of considerable size, is covered by a shelving rock, under which, it is said, five hundred men could find shelter. Swinging rock and immense bowlders here and there complete the wild, and strangely fashioned topography of the town.

Early Settlers—The General Court voted in 1735 to set off the territory within this town at the request of petitioners Samuel Newall, Thomas Tileston, Samuel Gallop, and Abraham Tilton. Each man named was to have an even share in these tracts and settlement conditions were to be carried out within five years or the forfeit money of twenty pounds Sterling was to be lost to the proprietors. One of these grants was issued to Samuel Newall

and associates, and was the tract now called Warwick. It is said that Samuel Newall was the only survivor of thirty-nine men who engaged under Captain Andrew Gardner in the Canada expedition in 1690, the rest all having perished. Another account says the men who took these land grants were the sons of the men who perished, as the grants from the first were known as "Roxbury Canada" and "Gardner's Canada." The first meeting of the proprietors was held in Roxbury, September, 1736. There a committee was selected to lay out the "home lots," each lot to contain not less than fifty nor more than sixty acres, and each proprietor to bear his proportionate share of expenses.

Although lots were laid out as early as 1737, they remained unsettled until shortly previous to 1744, but the precise date of the first settlement is not known. Among those who first settled were Joseph Goodell, Samuel Bennet, Deacon James Ball, Amos Marsh, Solomon Eager, Thomas Rich, Moses Leonard, Col. Samuel Williams, Deacon Silas Towne, Col. Joseph Mayo, Caleb Mayo, Captain John Goldsbury, Mark Moore and Jonathan Moore. In 1761 there were thirty-seven families of the first division of lots.

There are so many representatives of the Cooke or Cook family and collateral lines scattered through the Connecticut Valley counties, that inclusion here of the following carefully prepared and verified chapter of genealogical notes, by Miss Rhoda Ann Cook, of Warwick, will prove of widespread interest.

Joseph and George Cooke were younger sons of Sir Thomas Cooke, of Pebmarsh and Great Yealdham, County Essex, England. These two came to America July 4, 1635 in the ship "Defence," registered as servants to Roger Harlakenden. They reached Boston October 3, and Newtown, (now Cambridge), two days later. They were disguised as servants because they were under a ban, being non-conformists, and anti-Stuart men, and stout Protestants of the fighting kind. They brought much money, and soon owned more than 800 acres of land, acquired by purchase and grants in and around Cambridge. They owned the ferry to Boston, and built the first water-mill in New England, existing today as the Arlington Whole Wheat mills.

George Cook was captain of the first "Train band," and of the first artillery company in Cambridge. He commanded the expedition sent to Rhode Island to apprehend Samuel Gorton and his colony. He was a member,—and in 1645, presiding officer,—of the General Court. As colonel in Oliver Cromwell's army, he

was later slain in battle in Ireland. But Joseph, founder of his family in America, born 1608, remained and married Elizabeth, daughter of Governor John Haynes, of the Connecticut colony. Joseph was local magistrate ten years, the General Court's representative from his district six years, seven years selectman, five years the town clerk, and successor to the military posts of his brother George, on the latter's return to England. In 1665 he was living in Stanaway, England, having conveyed a large part of his real estate in Cambridge, Massachusetts, to his son Joseph, born there December 27, 1643.

This second Joseph, with his sisters, Grace, Ruth and Elizabeth, remained in America. He graduated at Harvard, 1661, married Martha Steadman in 1665 and was several years a member of the General Court. He was prominent in church, civil and military affairs. He commanded a company in King Philip's War. One of his five children, Alice, married Rev. John Whitney, of Lancaster, killed by the Indians September 11, 1697, and she later married Rev. Timothy Stevens, of Glastonbury, Connecticut. Joseph's youngest son, Haynes Cook, born at Cambridge, February 1, 1677-8, had four sons: Josiah, born April 13, 1709, Samuel, Timothy and Thomas; and he lived in Cambridge, Woburn and Concord. Josiah, the first named, lived in his native Concord, in Lancaster and Warwick, Franklin County. By his wife, Beriah, he had four children: Daniel, born in Concord, Massachusetts, May 29, 1740, Charity, Israel and Lizzie. Daniel, the eldest, with the aid of his father, Josiah, cleared and subdued a farm, original lot No. 28, on the south eastern slope of Mount Grace in Warwick, occupied by him and his descendants from 1762 to 1867. Daniel married Sarah, daughter of Obadiah Morse, of Southboro, in 1765, and had eight children, all born in Warwick: Sallie, born 1766; Rhoda, born 1769; Daniel, born 1772; Eunice, born 1774; Benaiah, born 1777; Ezekiel, born 1779; Charity, born 1781; and Seth, born 1785. Daniel was a private in Captain Ebenezer Strong's company, Colonel Sears regiment, enlisting August 10, 1781; marching through the wilderness to Albany and actively serving at Ticonderoga and Saratoga. He was mustered out at the latter point, November 20, 1781; and got home as best he could with his comrades; suffering severely on his way through the woods from hunger and bitter cold. Daniel died in Warwick February 4, 1811.

Ezekiel, the sixth child of the above-mentioned Daniel of Con-

cord, married Polly Woodbury, of Royalston, October 27, 1803, and had eight children, all born in Warwick: Fannie, (1804), Sumner, (1806), Daniel, (1807), Asahel, (1809), Charity, (1812), Rhoda, (1814), Mary, (1816), Abigail, (1818). Ezekiel died in December, 1818, and his widow, Polly, then married Elias Knowlton in 1824, dying in 1863.

Asahel Cook, the fourth child of Ezekiel, born October 11, 1809, in Warwick, married Emeline M. Field, of Northfield in 1831. Their children were Mary L., (1833), George Ezekiel, Charles Daniel, Edward Asahel, Henry H., James O., Rhoda Ann, William F., Frank F., and Sumner S., (1851). Asahel sold the old Daniel Cook homestead which he then occupied, in 1867, the home of the Warwick Cooks for more than a hundred years, and removed to Barre, Massachusetts, where he died in 1885.

The Town of Warwick has always sent her share of men to the various wars, details of which are found elsewhere.

In 1781 the town agreed to set off 4,060 acres of land, with the inhabitants upon the same, to be incorporated into the Town of Orange. This town was divided in 1786 upon the subject of Shays' rebellion, and furnished to that cause both men and money. When in May, 1788, preparations were made at Northampton for the execution of several of Shays' men, a party of Shays' men, under command of Colonel Smith, made a raid upon Warwick, and capturing Dr. Medad Pomeroy and Joseph Metcalf, carried them off, proposing to detain them as hostages for the lives of two rebels—Jason Parmenter and Henry McCulloch—then under sentence of death. These convicts being afterward reprieved, the two Warwick men were released. In 1786 the selectmen of the town were imprisoned for "acts in office," presumably upon the question in support of the Shays' Rebellion against the general government.

Dr. Ebenezer Hall in 1812, concluded that glass could be made in this town. He interested others and formed the Franklin Glass-Manufacturing Company of Warwick, and erected works and for a time glass was produced, but due to a lack of capital and expert workers, the enterprise soon failed.

Organization—December 27, 1762, the proprietors of this tract joined with the inhabitants in petitioning the General Court to incorporate the plantation as a town, and February 17, 1763, the Town of Warwick was duly incorporated. It is believed that the town was named for either Warwick in England, or Guy,

Earl of Warwick, but no such record was left us. The town has been governed as most towns in Franklin County—by men of judgment, and the money received by selectmen as taxes has been well spent. The town clerk's report for 1924 gives these facts concerning the present town officers and other affairs connected with the town: The town officers for 1924-25 are—town clerk and treasurer—Josiah Joslin; selectmen, assessors and overseers of the poor—Carl G. Stange, George D. Shepardson and Frank W. Webster; tax-collector—Nils Ohlson; auditor—Ludwig Nordtsted; tree warden—Joel P. Morey; superintendent of roads—Carl G. Stange.

The treasurer's report shows a balance on hand January 1, 1924 of $3,488; taxes collected, $20,009 and other items making a total of receipts $38,554. Balance on hand December 31, 1924, $4,266.

The school superintendent's report shows the number of pupils enrolled was 52; average daily attendance, 39.

The assessors' report for last year shows the number of individuals in the town to be 131; number of persons assessed on property was 332; polls, 29; value of assessed real estate, $361,000; personal estate, $131,000. The number of horses assessed, 76; cows, 84; sheep, 37; neat cattle, 63; swine, 17; dwelling houses, 154; acres of land assessed, 23,745; fowls assessed, 1,696.

The only village in this town is Warwick Centre, situated on an eminence with a beautiful landscape scene on every hand. In what was long styled the Upper and the Lower Villages, three churches, a schoolhouse, a hotel store, stores, postoffice, boot factory, forty years ago had a collection of forty or fifty dwellings. From 1852 to 1857 Warwick had a militia company called the Warwick Light Infantry.

The first record of church activities here dates from 1753 when a meeting-house was ordered built. The first minister was Rev. Lemuel Hedge, a Harvard graduate. He was not ordained until 1760, when the Congregational church was organized with twenty-six members. Other denominations in the town have been the Unitarians, Baptists and Universalists. A Second Congregational church was formed in 1829 with thirty members.

Schools—When the town was granted to the sixty-three proprietors in 1735, one of the sixty-three equal shares of land was ordered set apart for schools, but it appears no move toward starting schools was had until 1768. In 1773 the town was divided

into school districts. The school reports for 1924 have already been mentioned in this article.

Industries—The industries have always been about equally divided in this town between agriculture and manufacturing. In 1875 the farm products amounted to $75,000 and the other industries amounted to $82,000. Saw mills and heading and pail-stave mills were common forty and more years ago. A boot factory at Warwick Village, conducted by Nahum Jones, was established in 1854 in which forty persons found work and produced yearly about 20,000 pairs of boots, valued at $50,000. With the passing years and change of times, methods of farm life have changed and factories have re-located in larger places, leaving but little in the way of busy factories in this section of the county. The United States census in 1920 gave the population of Warwick Town as 327.

Town of New Salem—New Salem has an area of 15,000 acres, forming the extreme southeast corner of Franklin County. It has Orange on the north, Hampshire County on the south, Worcester County on the east, and the towns of Shutesbury and Wendell on the west. The present territory equals twenty-three square miles.

The town, in common with many of its sisters, has many beautiful landscape scenes. The highest elevation is Packard's Mountain in the southwest, said to be 1,273 feet higher than sea-level. The streams are a branch of Millers River, middle branch of Swift River, through the center; Hop Brook, Moose-horn Brook and lesser streamlets. There are numerous ponds throughout the territory, one in the north covering 320 acres.

Settlement—December 31, 1734, the General Court issued to sixty persons, resident in the town (now City of Salem, Massachusetts), a grant for a township of six miles square, or its equal, and further issued an additional grant of 4,000 acres. In August, 1735, the proprietors effected an organization and located the township upon the territory now occupied by the Town of New Salem. The tract was laid out in an oblong form and extended north and south about ten miles. The additional grant named, was annexed to the northern end of the new town, which thus became about thirteen miles in length. Subsequently the town was widened by the addition to the west side of a portion of Shutesbury; in 1820 shortened at the south end by taking therefrom a

tract of Prescott, and again in 1837, at the north end when a tract was taken off and added to Athol and Orange. In 1856 a fire destroyed all early records of this town, hence only a few important facts are here furnished the reader. It was founded in 1735; its first settler came in 1737. The Indian scares and actual warlike demonstrations kept back settlers a few years. The proprietors after long waiting obtained the pledge of Jeremiah Meacham to make the first settlement, conditioned upon a present of ten pounds Sterling for so doing. The next to set stakes in that then "green glad solitude," were Amos Foster, Benjamin Stacy, Amos Putnam, James Cook, Jeremiah Ballard and others. On account of Indian troubles not far away, improvised forts and stockades were built here by the sturdy pioneer band. One attack was made by the Indians, when the men were absent, but through strategy and courage of the women inmates of the fort, no blood was shed. After the Indians had disappeared the settlers flocked in by considerable numbers. The struggles of New Salem pioneers would fill large volumes.

During the Revolution there were two militia companies at New Salem. When the Lexington Alarm sounded April 19, 1775, the people were called to meet on the village green and held a mass-meeting. Lieutenant Stacy, doffing his hat, drew his British commission as a militiaman, and remarked while tearing it into strips, "Fellow soldiers, I don't know exactly how you feel, but as for me, I will no longer serve a king who murders my own countrymen." The effect on the men was only to thrill all with a new spirit of devotion to the new American cause, and soon the company under command of Stacy was off for the seat of war. He was chosen captain and served bravely, rising to the rank of lieutenant-colonel, receiving a gold snuff-box from Washington as a mark of esteem. After the war closed he went west and was killed by the Indians at Marietta, Ohio.

Organization—In 1753 the two grants issued to the original proprietors were incorporated as a district and called New Salem, for the reason that its proprietors belonged to *old* Salem. Under the act of 1786, the district became a town. Before 1753 the meetings of the proprietors were held in old Salem. Unfortunately, all the early records for New Salem were lost in the 1856 fire.

Of the present condition of town affairs it may be said that the 1925 town officers are as follows: Town clerk—Ralph E. Stowell; selectmen—William H. Reddy, Dwight A. Stowell and

William L. Newton; assessors—Edwin Goodnow, H. Sawtell, Nelson A. Bliss; overseers of the poor—William H. Reddy, William L. Newton and Dwight A. Stowell; tree warden—Fred Ballard; forest warden—Merton Davis; auditor—A. Frances Ballard; pound-keeper—Dayle Hamilton.

The school report shows number pupils enrolled, 146.

The number of persons assessed in town, 264; non-residents, 140; for poll tax only, 31; number persons assessed, 462; value of assessed personal property, $144,050; real estate, $510,195; total value of assessed estate, $654,095; taxation rate per thousand dollars, $22.50; horses assessed, 143; cows assessed, 153; sheep assessed, 26; neat cattle other than cows, 95; swine assessed, 7.

Villages, etc.—In 1892 it was written of this town and its villages that there were then four villages there and each had a postoffice—New Salem Centre, North New Salem, Cooleyville, and Millington. Cooleyville was named for the sturdy blacksmith of of the village, Merrick B. Cooley. The adoption of the modern free rural delivery of mail has materially changed the postoffice points in this township as now Millington and New Salem are the only offices in existence.

During all the conflicts in which our country has been defended, this town has sent her men and means to support their claims to justice. Other parts of this work will mention such details.

New Salem has always been well supplied with churches. The first minister was Rev. Samuel Kendall, who died in 1792. In 1824 a new church society was formed and they purchased the first building and removed it to North New Salem. The Third Congregational church was organized in New Salem Centre in 1845. As early as 1772, a Baptist church was formed in the south part of the town. The Methodist church has also had a class in this town many years.

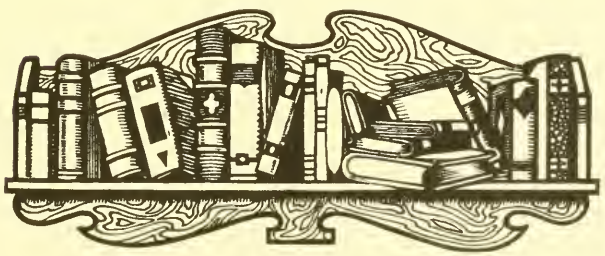
Educational Interests—Owing to the accidental burning of the town's early records but little can be said concerning the pioneer schools. In 1794 the subject of providing this town with proper schools was agitating the minds of the people. To this end a schoolhouse was erected at the Centre, and February 25, 1795, the New Salem Academy was incorporated "for the purpose of promoting piety, religion and morality, and for the instruction of the youth in such languages and in such of the liberal arts and sciences as the trustees shall direct." Among those active in establishing this academy were Rev. Joel Foster, Deacon Samuel

Kendall, Ezekiel Kellogg, Jr., and Varney Pearce. The State granted a half township of land in Maine in 1797 for the benefit of this institution. By the running of a new boundary line between the United States and the British dominions, this institution lost one-half of the original grant in Maine.

In 1837 the academy building was burned, but was speedily rebuilt by funds donated by the town. In 1870 the school received from the State, $10,000, from the citizens of New Salem, $5,000. The academy still exists and is an excellent institution of learning.

Besides the academy the town had in 1876, seven district schools, with an average attendance of 135 pupils.

The early industries far outnumbered those of modern days. Once there were nine saw mills cutting lumber the year round; palm hats were made in great quantities; there were tanneries and boot shops not a few. The times have materially changed and most of the factory industries have gone.



PART V

HAMPDEN COUNTY

CHAPTER I

THE ORIGINAL TERRITORY

In the absorbingly interesting history of the Connecticut Valley the vast territory originally known as Springfield, made the latter literally the mother of the "County," as well as township-form of government for the whole region. Many new problems not possible to be foreseen by the settlers led to the appointment of the "plantation committee" for the consideration of "Settling the towns into the form of a County" in 1662 which resulted in the establishment of the "county called Hampshire," with Springfield as the shire town. With the increase of population and responsibilities, steps taken in 1721 for the erection of a court house in Springfield, "provided our neighboring towns of Westfield, Suffield, Enfield and Brookfield be assisting in the doing of it," even with the offer of the shire town paying one-half, had no tangible result for a long time. Finally, in 1724, a "court-house" of primitive character was erected a little east of the present Court Square on Sanford Street. It served for holding the court-sessions until 1794, when the county seat,—much to the complaint of people in the southern part of "Hampshire," was removed, public records and all, to Northampton. It was this dissatisfaction with having the scene of the trial of causes so far removed from Springfield, that started the agitation in favor of still another county being formed. The same sort of agitation in the northern part of the state,—and for the same cause, resulted in the formation of Franklin County in 1811, and the setting up of Hampden County, 1812. Then the old two-and-half-story Springfield court-house, came into active use again, as the house of justice tempered with mercy, continuing as such until 1822, when a more commodious structure was provided.

The sub-division of Hampshire County, by which Franklin was created June, 1811, and Hampden by legislative enactment in the following February, was done under great political excitement. The new governor, Hon. Elbridge Gerry, a signer of the famous Declaration, and who shortly after this won election as vice-president of the United States, actively and openly supported the incorporation of two more districts, necessitating the designation of new judgeships and other offices. He was the shrewd politician and acknowledged leader of his party in the state and as such

created violent and determined opposition when it came to the important matter of appointments. The supporters of the governor saw new power put into their hands by the wording of the act cutting off for the fourth and last time a new slice of old Hampshire County. At the time of its organization, Hampden County contained but eighteen towns. The act erecting the new county, February 20, 1812, was in part worded thus:

An Act for dividing the county of Hampshire, and erecting and forming the southerly part thereof into a separate county, by the name of Hampden.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in general court assembled, and by authority of the same, That the county of Hampshire be and is hereby divided; and the following towns, in the southerly part thereof, be and hereby are erected and formed into a county by the name of Hampden, that is to say, Springfield, Longmeadow, Wilbraham, Monson, Holland, Brimfield, South Brimfield, Palmer, Ludlow, West Springfield, Westfield, Montgomery, Russell, Blandford, Granville, Southwick, Tolland, and Chester, of which Springfield shall be the shire town; and that all that part of said county of Hampshire included within the boundaries of the towns before mentioned shall be deemed and taken to compose the said county of Hampden. And the inhabitants of the said county of Hampden shall have, use, exercise, and enjoy all such powers, rights, privileges, and immunities as by the constitution and laws of this Commonwealth other counties have, use, exercise and enjoy."

It seems that the act further provided for the administration of its affairs "from and after August 1, 1812." But Gov. Gerry made incautious haste with his appointing power, and in May of the same year, the Federalist Party awoke to the fact that Hon. Samuel Fowler had been appointed judge of probate in the new county of Hampden, and that Jonathan Smith, Jr., had received the office of sheriff. At once great commotion arose in Springfield. Lines between Democratic and Federalist forces were sharply drawn. Quo warranto proceedings were instituted, with George Ashmum as chief counsel for Gov. Gerry's appointees, and Hon. George Bliss representing the solicitor general.

In February, 1813, the legislature passed an order requiring the attorney general to file information showing by what right Judge Fowler, Sheriff Smith and others held the county offices to which they had been appointed in Hampden County. Because the attorney-general had not been asked to do this by both branches of the legislature, he refused to answer until the court could pass upon the validity of the action. Proceedings in this case were dismissed. Then action was taken up against Sheriff Smith in a plea of abatement, involving the service of a writ by one of Smith's new deputies in the case of Fowler vs. Beebe. The latter, Ludlow's

representative in the House when the vote to create Hampden County was taken, pleaded in abatement that Sheriff Smith had received an appointment to his office from Gov. Gerry before any such county as Hampden in fact existed. This action was decided for the time being, in favor of Smith, who continued in the office of sheriff until 1814.

But Judge Fowler was not so fortunate. After a hotly-contested hearing with able arguments at length by the opposing counsel, Messrs. Ashmun and Bliss, the court decided in favor of the latter, Judge Fowler being enjoined from holding his office, into which he had been duly sworn by Lt.-Gov. William Gray, and was ordered to pay the cost of the action.

The Growing "Shire"—At the time of the formation of Hampden County, it had at least 24,000 population, having increased by many hundreds since the removal of the seat of justice from Springfield to Northampton. As an illustration Springfield itself had grown in that time from barely 1,500 to 2, 767, which made it larger than Northampton. County affairs have been administered by "county commissioners" (usually three) since 1662, the birthday of the County. When Hampden County was formed these groups of commissioners were called "Courts of General Sessions" or "General Sessions of The Peace," composed of justices of the peace appointed by the several towns of the county and ordered to meet at the county-seat at stated intervals. In 1814 and until 1819, the county commission went by the name of "Circuit Court of Common Pleas," which explains the allusion in many of the public documents of the time to decisions by "the Court," when only the board of county commissioners is meant. This accounts for the allusion to the "Court" decision to build a new County Court House in 1818 and later. This "Court" at the time of definite decision to build county buildings, in March, 1820, according to the records, consisted of Heman Day of West Springfield, Chairman Amos Hamilton of Palmer, and Stephen Pynchon of Brimfield. These men appointed a special building-commission of seven men, headed by Amos Hamilton, and including John Phelps of Granville, (who cast his vote for the county in the legislature of 1812), Enos Foot, Samuel Lathrop, (Yale, 1792, and later member of Congress), Jonathan Dwight, Jr., Springfield Bank director, Joel Norcross and Daniel Collins. A controversy between those who favored a State Street location, and one of "Meeting House Square," resulted in victory for the latter. A number of prominent men agreed

among themselves to buy a central tract of land on the main street out of which could be donated to the county a sufficient area for county court house and other public buildings. The remaining part, not needed for a 'public Common" they proposed to sell for business purposes; and subsequent events connected with the rapid growth of that locality proves the business sagacity of these shrewd early realtors. The names of the donors of the present "Court Square" and amounts (large for those times) subscribed, are deserving of mention here. The commission accepted the deed dated April, 1821. The subscribers to the purchasing fund were David Ames, $600; Elijah Blake, $250; Alexander Bliss, $200; Daniel Bontecou, $800; Daniel C. Brewer, $150; Henry Brewer, $50; Japhet Chapin, $100; Pliny Chapin, $50; Quartus Chapin, $25; Joseph Carver, $100; Elisha Curtis, $100; Sylvester Clark, $50; Thomas Dickman, $100; Elisha Edwards, $50; Lewis Ferre, Jr., $25; Moses Howe, $100; John Hooker, Sr., $700; John Hooker, Jr., $50; John Ingersoll, $100; Samuel Ostrander, $100; Edward Pynchon, $800; F. A. Packard, $50; Joseph Pease, $50; Ebenezer Russell, $100; Simon Sanborn, $100; Charles Stearns, $100; Dr. J. Stone, $100; Thomas Sargent, $100; Israel E. Trask, $300; Solomon Warriner, $200; James Wells, $200; Justice Willard, $100; Eleazur Williams, $400. Without any expectation of returns from the sale of adjoining lots, liberal cash contributions were also made by Dr. Joshua Frost, Daniel and Roswell Lombard, Jonas Coolidge, Oliver B. Morris, George Blake, Roger Adams, A. G. Tannatt, Jacob Edward and Francis Bliss, James Chapin, Robert Bowhill and Ebenezer Tucker.

The first Hampden County Court house was built in 1821, and cost $8,375. It stood just north of the old First Congregational Church in Court Square. It was a brick building, with four pillars in front, and its dimensions were state to be "62 by 48 feet on the ground, two stories in height and 31 feet to the eaves." It served its judicial purpose for more than fifty years. Then it became a business "Institute," and later the early home of Odd Fellowship in Springfield. Its successor, the present grey granite building, on Elm Street, flanked by the old church and the Hampden County Hall of Records, was authorized by act of the legislature in March, 1871. The Elm Street ground cost $75,716. The building itself cost $214,068 and the interior furnishings cost $14,757. The building is appropriately enough of Monson granite, and measures 90 by 160 feet.

Houses Of Detention And Correction—Accepting the authority of Dr. Alfred Booth, the county's first "gaol" was in the vicinity of Maple Street, and was burned by the Indians when the town was destroyed by fire during King Philip's war. The old tavern which stood on Bliss Street, was next to the old log-house type of jail used during the Revolutionary War. In the September term of the year 1813, Jonathan Smith, Jr., Jonathan Dwight, Jr. and Daniel Lombard were authorized to select a plan and make a contract for the building of a suitable jail, "subject to further orders of the Court." Several other committees appointed in rapid succession were apparently unable to agree on ways and means, near the close of the same year the county accepted the recommendation of a new committee that land containing the right site for the jail could be bought of Joseph Hopkins on State Street, where the Central High School now stands, for $500. The acre and a half thus secured was felt by several influential opponents of the aforesaid "Court Square" faction to be a strong reason why the State Street location should be chosen for the civic centre. The land cost $500; and the building, of stone, erected in 1814, cost $14,164. The first "Gaolers" were Col. Ebenezer Russell, Col. Harvey Chapin, Major William H. Foster, and Noah H. Clark. The old house of correction was abandoned as such when the more modern county jail was opened on York Street, February, 1887. It required the purchase of several parcels of land to accommodate the present commodious jail buildings. The commissioners, Clark of Springfield, Root of Westfield, and Chase of Holyoke, deserve special mention for this monument to their judgment and sagacity; for it is complete in all its arrangements and appointments.

Hampden County towns and cities have furnished the State with many high officials:

Governor, George Dexter Robinson, of Springfield, in 1884; Lieut.-governors, Eliphalet Trask in 1858 and William H. Haile, 1893, both of Springfield; Treasurers and Receivers-General, Henry M. Phillips, 1894, and Edward S. Bradford, 1900, both ex-mayors of Springfield; State Auditor, Charles R. Ladd, Springfield, 1879; Secretaries of State, William B. Calhoun, 1848, (promotion from president of the Senate in 1846), and Albert P. Langtry, 1915, both of Springfield; other presidents of the Senate, Samuel Lathrop, 1829 and George Bliss, 1835, both Springfield; Speakers of the House of Representatives, William B. Calhoun, George Ashmun, and George Bliss; Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, 1868

to 1873, Reuben Atwater Chapman, of Springfield; Justices of the Supreme Court, R. A. Chapman, 1860, John Mills, 1866, Augustus Lord Soule, 1877 and Marcus Perrin Knowlton, 1887, all of Springfield. It is interesting to note in passing that in 1847 the county commissioners of Hampden granted thirty-six liquor licenses for Springfield alone, and was the only county in the state at that time which had licensed bars! This no doubt accounted in part for the fact that Hampden County was the storm centre in that year for all New Englanders' temperance forces; and that features of that years' intensive campaign included a "National Festival" of temperance and several lectures in Springfield by the celebrated John B. Gough!

The county was almost immediately divided into four "jury districts," with Springfield, Longmeadow and Wilbraham as a central one. The second district took in the county's four northernmost towns on the west side of the river, and the fourth district comprised the remaining west side towns. District number three was the largest in territory, taking in the towns of Monson, Brimfield, South Brimfield, Holland, Palmer and Ludlow. It will interest many to learn that in first adjustment of taxes, West Springfield, then largest in population led the list. The recommendation that the first assessment of taxes for county purposes should be $2000 was adopted and the apportionment was as follows,—in marked contrast to the figures and adjustments of today: West Springfield, $254.69; Springfield, $226.66; Westfield, $174.47; Wilbraham, $145.47; Monson, $137.12; Blandford, $132.13; Chester, $125.65; Granville, $123.20; Brimfield, $108.13; Southwick, $100.67; Palmer, $91.26; Longmeadow, $84.86; Tolland, $65.36; Ludlow, $59.80; South Brimfield, $52.83; Montgomery, $48.73; Russell, $34.57; Holland, $34.40. By way of contrast, take the figures for West Springfield, the highest town in 1812, when in 1923 it had jumped to an assessed valuation of $23,830,155 and a tax rate of $30 a thousand!

Legislative Divisions—Every township in Massachusetts with 150 ratable polls, about the same number of years ago, was permitted one representative at the General Court, with an additional solon for every extra 225. It was fixed by law that towns could not be organized with less than 150 polls, though some townships already in existence in 1779 were allowed one representative. In an act passed by the legislature in May, 1855, the State was divided

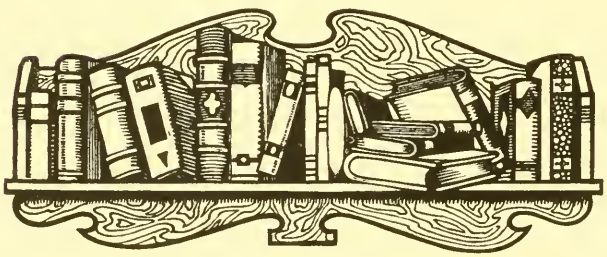
into representative "districting by counties," another act fixed the number of representatives entitled to credentials based upon the population. Preliminary to this the county commissioners of every county, being in the best position to judge of the requirements of their various sections, were authorized to subdivide their repective counties into districts carefully proportioned to the number of legal voters. The matter of representative districts is now adjusted so as to provide Hampden County with fifteen representatives. Brimfield, Holland, Monson, Palmer and Wales with 2,820 legal voters, comprise the "First" district, entitled to one representative. Agawam, Chester, the two Longmeadows, Montgomery, Granville, Hampden, Ludlow, Wilbraham, Tolland, Southwick, Russell, and West Springfield, comprise the "Second," with 6,715 legal voters entitling it to two representatives. The "Third" and "Fourth" districts are each also entitled to two representatives; the former taking in the 6153 voters of Springfield's wards 1 and 2, and the latter providing an outlet for the 7322 voters of the same city's wards 3, 6 and 7. Springfield's ward 4, with 3215 voters, makes representative district number 5. District number 6 is Springfield's ward 5, with 2595 voters. The 3579 voters of ward 8, Springfield, make district number 7. Chicopee's 41888 population yields 4339 legal voters, and this makes district number 8. The first, second, and fourth wards of the city of Holyoke, with 3610 voters makes district 9; and that city's 3897 voters of wards 3 and 6 make district 10, Holyoke's wards 5 and 7 with 3,467 voters make district 11, and Westfield's 19,061 population with 3,516 legal voters, makes the Twelfth Congressional District.

According to the 1920 estimate, Hampden County's twenty-three cities and towns, (the same number as Hampshire), contained more than 300,305 population, and its 95,734 registered voters were divided into four Congressional districts. Chicopee, Springfield, West Springfield, Agawam, Longmeadow, East Longmeadow, Wilbraham, Hampden, and Ludlow, are grouped with twelve towns of Hampshire and twelve of Franklin counties to make the "Second Hampden Congressional District." This had in 1915 a population of 245,044. The towns of Brimfield, Holland, Monson, Palmer, and Wales, grouped with two Franklin County towns, two Hampshire towns, two Middlesex County towns, and forty Worcester towns, make what is known as the "Third Hampden". The "First Hampden" includes the remaining nine towns of the county.

The "Worcester-Hampden Senatorial District" with its 20,526

legal voters, includes the Hampden County towns of Brimfield, Hampden, Monson, Ludlow, Palmer, Holland, Wales, and Wilbraham. The "First Senatorial" includes both Longmeadows, and all of Springfield's wards but one, with 21,102 legal voters. The "Second Hampden Senatorial District," includes Springfield's Ward 1, with Chicopee and Holyoke, calling for 17,891 legal voters. The district called "Berkshire, Hampshire, and Hampden Senatorial," containing 21,111 legal voters, includes the remaining ten Hampden County towns. Similar divisions are arranged for the three "Councillor Districts," known respectively as the "Seventh," "Eighth," and "Hampden" districts.

The county has now a recorded valuation of $666,865,626, and 91,950 registered polls.



CHAPTER II

HAMPDEN COUNTY LAWYERS

From a history of the Bar of the Connecticut Valley compiled in 1825-6, and from writings of Hon. George Bliss, a considerable portion of this account of the early lawyers of this county has been gleaned. During the earliest period of settlement but little is known as to the members of the legal profession in what is now known as Hampden County. It may, however, be stated that a lawyer was not rated as high in the community in pioneer decades as he is today. His learning was very much abridged and his law books few and probably not too much used after once having been read. With the advance of time, the legal profession was more highly appreciated and the services of a good attorney were valued as they are today.

The first administrator of justice, and the first person who had any knowledge of the law in the Agawam Colony, was its first magistrate and principal business factor, William Pynchon, one of the original patentees of the Massachusetts Colony, and also a magistrate; when the General Court granted him and his associates permission to emigrate to the Connecticut Valley, it also constituted him the magistrate of the new colony, and this was to include jurisdiction over civil and criminal cases, subject to an appeal to a jury of six men.

In 1641 the General Court of Massachusetts authorized a larger scope of power in civil and criminal cases than he had before that date. Pynchon exercised this right until 1650, when he was suspended from office in consequence of the publication of a theological pamphlet by him, which was adjudged as heterodox. His son-in-law, Henry Smith, was appointed in his place but both sailed for England. In 1658 authority was given to commissioners of Springfield and Northampton to hold courts alternately at those places. This continued until the erection of Hampshire County.

It appears there was very little respect paid to lawyers of those days, and the business of the profession was anything but a lucrative one. In fact, the law prohibited every person "who is a usual and common attorney in any inferior court" from being admitted to sit as a deputy in the General Court.

The earliest record of attorneys in this county was 1686, when John King, of Northampton and Samuel Marshfield and Jonathan Burt, Sr., of Springfield, took the oath for the faithful performance of their duties.

In 1701 the form of oath of an attorney was prescribed which is still in use, said Mr. Bliss in 1826. Between 1694 and 1720, the record of attorneys is not clear. It is known that John Huggins and Christopher Jacob Lawton, residents of Springfield, in 1686 and later, had a large law practice for those times. Lawton was regularly admitted in 1726. Samuel Partridge, who had been clerk of the court, is mentioned as an attorney, and after 1720, as chief-justice of the Court of Common Pleas.

Among the prominent men named in those times was Timothy Dwight, of Northampton, regularly admitted August, 1721 and continued many years. The names of William Pynchon and Josiah Dwight, of Springfield, are also given, the date admitted not now known. John Ashley, of Westfield, was admitted to the bar in 1732. Cornelius Jones, a tailor, was admitted to the practice of law in 1732 as a pettifogger; in 1752 as a regular lawyer. These three men had much to do with the bar of this county progressing into a creditable standard—Gen. Phinehas Lyman, a graduate of Yale, 1738; John Worthington, of Springfield and Joseph Hawley, of Northampton. Col. Worthington was a native of Springfield, born 1719, educated at Yale, commenced practice at Springfield in 1744 and there remained until his death, aged eighty-one years. Maj. Hawley was born at Northampton in 1724, and graduated at Yale College in 1742. He studied for the ministry and preached several years. Later he studied law with Gen. Lyman, and about 1749 he commenced the practice of his legal profession.

Previous to 1826, the territory now embraced within Western Massachusetts had furnished one governor, two judges of the Supreme Court, two members of the old Congress, four United States Senators, one speaker of the House of Representatives, one member of the original United States Constitutional Convention, three delegates to the State Constitutional Convention, seven representatives in Congress, twenty-seven State Senators, six State councillors, one President of the Senate, two speakers of the House, eight judges of the Court of Common Pleas, five judges of probate, and four sheriffs.

In 1828 Hon. George Bliss was the oldest member of Hampden County Bar. He was born 1765 and died in 1830. He graduated

when nineteen years of age in 1784 and on account of not being made judge of the Court of Common Pleas, he withdrew from the bar and never practiced law again.

Other prominent lawyers were the following: John Ingersoll, born in Westfield, 1769, graduate of Yale, admitted to practice in 1797; he was the first clerk of courts in Hampden County and died in Springfield in 1840. Hon. Samuel Lathrop, son of Rev. Joseph Lathrop, was born in Springfield, 1771, graduated at Yale in 1792; read law and was admitted to the bar at a very early date. He was an eminent legal light; was elected to Congress, representing his district from 1818 to 1824; was for ten years member of the State Senate. He died in 1846 after having spent a number of years in agricultural pursuits, especially as a leader among improved stock breeders.

Hon. Elijah H. Mills graduated at Williams College in 1797 and was admitted to the bar at Northampton in 1803 and had a large law practice. He was elected a United States Senator which took him away from his law business. While in practice, he was frequently pitted against Hon. Lewis Strong and Hon. Isaac C. Bates. The contests between them always called together large audiences.

The list of members of the profession in the county would include these: Hon. Oliver B. Morris, admitted to the bar in 1804; Hon. Alanson Knox, admitted in 1810; Asahel Wright, graduate of Williams College, was admitted to the practice and continued until his death when he was less than fifty years of age. Hon. John Mills, born in Sandsfield, 1790; admitted to the bar in 1815; he made a fortune, then unwisely invested it and all was swept from him. He had one of the finest residences in Springfield. Hon. Patrick Boise, of Westfield, was of the old pioneer Boise family, whose ancestor fled from his native land—Scotland, and came to free America. David Boise was from the first settlers in Blandford, this county. He rose to become a prominent lawyer. William Blair, a native of Blandford, was educated and admitted to the bar of this county in 1813, soon after settling in Westfield. Hon. Justice Willard was admitted to the practice in 1816. He served as register of Probate, was in the State Senate a number of terms. Hon. Caleb Rice, born 1792, was a graduate of Williams College, read law, was admitted to the bar 1819 and settled in West Springfield. He served in both House and Senate in Massachusetts Legislature, and passed from earth in 1873, aged eighty-

one years. Charles F. Bates, born in Granville, graduated at Williams College in 1812, read law and was admitted in 1815; settled at Southampton, where he was the only lawyer many years. Other lawyers who were at one time familiar figures before the courts in Hampden County were Asa Olmstead, of Brimfield, admitted in 1819; Eli B. Hamilton, of Blanford, admitted in 1815; Hon. James Cooley, born in East Granville, graduated at Williams College, admitted to practice in 1814; was a member of the State Senate and generally a very useful citizen. Hon. George Bliss, Jr., read law with his father, entered Yale College, graduated in 1812, was admitted to the bar in 1816 and settled in Monson, and later at Springfield, where he was a partner of his father-in-law, Jonathan Dwight, Jr. He served in both branches of the Legislature; was connected with the Western Railroad and died in 1873. Norman T. Leonard was admitted to the practice in Berkshire County in 1824. For a number of years he practiced law in West Springfield, later in Agawam and Westfield. He represented the town of Westfield in the General Court. Another of about the same date as the last few attorneys named was Samuel Johnson. It is recorded of him that he was "A standing Fourth-of-July and eighth of January orator." He was ever on hand to address his friends. Others recalled are William Knight, Alfred Stearns, John Hooker, Josiah Hooker, Erasmus Norcross, of Monson; John B. Cooley, settled in Brimfield; Richard D. Morris, born in Springfield, admitted to the bar in 1822. He became a well-known railway attorney in this State. William Bliss was admitted to practice in 1822 and commenced in Springfield, where he formed a partnership with Justice Willard, but owing to ill health, abandoned the profession. Hon. William Calhoun, a student of Hon. George Bliss, Sr., was admitted to the bar in 1821. He soon drifted into politics, served in both branches of the Legislature; was president of the Senate, 1846-47 and represented his district in Congress many years. James Stebbins, native of Springfield, practiced law in Palmer many years. He returned to his native town where he died. James W. Crooks, a native of Westfield, taught in the Westfield Academy; also taught at Springfield. He was admitted to practice law in 1824, opened an office on the "Hill" in Springfield. He died after a successful career in 1867. Still others who bore well the duties of respectable lawyers in this county were Francis B. Stebbins, born in Granville; Matthew Ives, Jr., Francis Dwight, Joseph D. Huntington, George B. Mor-

ris, Henry Vose, admitted in 1841; died in 1869. E. D. Beach, nephew of Hon. John Mills, admitted in 1833, locating in Springfield; had a large practice; was an excellent gentleman. Lorenzo Norton, admitted in 1843, died in 1850. Hon. Edward Dickinson, born 1803, graduated at Yale, 1823, took a high rank among the learned lawyers of his day. He died while attending to his duties as member of the Massachusetts Legislature. Amos W. Stockwell, a graduate of Amherst College in 1833, read law at the Harvard Law School. He settled in Chicopee and became a prominent member of the Hampden County Bar. The list of lawyers also had such legal advocates as Hon. Reuben Atwater Chapman, whose history is found in any library where biographies are kept. He was admitted to the practice of law in 1825. He became chief-justice and ranked high. Another distinguished attorney was Hon. George Ashnum, graduate of Yale in 1823; admitted to the legal practice in 1830 before the Hampshire County Bar; first opened an office at Enfield, but soon moved to Springfield where he was a partner of Reuben A. Chapman. Politically, he succeeded in serving both the State and national law-making bodies; he died in Springfield in 1870. Ansel Phelps, Jr., was born in Greenfield, Massachusetts in 1815; was admitted to the bar in 1840, first located at Ware, but in 1846 moved to Springfield to become a railway lawyer in which he succeeded well. He was mayor of his city from 1856 to 1859. He died in 1860 only forty-five years of age. William G. Bates, of Westfield, whose portrait hangs in the County Court House, was a prominent figure at the bar, as was Edward B. Gillett, of Westfield, father of Senator Frederick H. Gillett. As a young attorney Mr. Gillett secured the conviction of the Northampton bank robbers in that celebrated case. Another whose career should be mentioned was T. Morton Dewey, born in New Hampshire; read law at Greenfield; was admitted to the bar in 1855 and commenced practice in Greenfield. In 1864 he located in Springfield where he spent many useful years in the law.

Present Members of the Bar—In the month of April, 1925, the following were practicing law in the city of Springfield:

Adams, Scott
Allen, Yerrall & Bellows
Aronstrom & Kamberg
Auchter & Poirier
Bacon & Wells
Ball & Lavigne
Ballard & Weston
Ballou, Frederick A.
Beckwith, Charles H.
Bell, Clinton E.
Bidwell, Raymond A.
Booth, Henry A.

Bosworth, Charles W.
Brooks, Kirby, Keedy & Brooks
Brownson, Wendell G.
Buzzell, Harry A.
Canfield, John B.
Carman, Ernest W.
Carmody, Joseph F.
Clarke, John D.
Cohn, Frederick
Collins, Thomas J.
Connor, A. Paul
Cooley, Robert C.
Courtney, Patrick
Cowett, Joseph B.
Crowell, Ralph W.
Davis, Milton L.
Dearborn, Josiah
Eaton, Robert B.
Egan, Alfred T.
Ehrlich, Harry M.
Ely & Ely
Fairbanks, Alfred C.
Fein, Samuel L.
Feriole, Charles J.
Flannery, J. Watson
Flower, Harold H.
Folsom, Robert S.
Gagnon, Joseph M.
Gardner, Gardner & Baldwin
Gelin, Isidore
Godfrey, Francis J.
Goldin, Shepard J.
Gordon, Gurdon W.
Gordon, Louis J.
Gottesman, John G.
Granfield, Noonan & Granfield
Graves, Merl D.
Green, Addison B.
Green & Bennett
Griffin, Michael J.
Harvey & Mulcare
Hayes, William P.
Henin, Louis C.
Higgins, John J., Jr.
Hoar, J. F.
Hooker, Earl D.
Houlihan, M. B.
Hughes, George H.
Hutchings, Edward
Jacobs, Charles M.
Jennings & Jennings
Jones, Ellis & Mitchell
Kane, M. G.
Kaps, John D.
Kerigan, Joseph E.
King, Raymond T.
Kirkland, Thomas H.
Kneeland, Robert S.
Lasker, Schoonermaker & Lasker
Leary, Cummings & Leary
Lombard, Paul I.
Macauley, Donald M.
Madden, John H.
Mahoney, James P.
Malley & Malley
Marble, Murray Glenn
Martin, William H.
Martinelli, Silvio
Moran, Henry A.
Moriarty, Cornelius J.
Moriarty, John T.
Moriarty, Thomas F.
Morrissey & Gray
Murray, John J.
McBride, Edward J.
McCarthy & Doherty
McClintock, Hoar & Houlihan
McKechnie, Wm. G.
Newell, F. N.
Novak, Benjamin D.
Nowak, Joseph A.
O'Shea, James
Palmer, George F.
Powers, Roswell J.
Reedy, Frank H.
Reilley, Fred A.
Rice, Horace J.
Ritter, Herman
Robinson, Stuart M.
Sannella, Anthony
Shaw, Irving R.
Shea, John B.
Shea, Thomas P.
Siegel, Chas. Van D.
Silver, Harry C.
Simpson, Clason & Callahan
Slavin, Abraham H.
Small, Harlan P.
Snow, Abraham E.
Spellman, Charles F.
Spooner, Ralph S.
Stapleton & Stapleton
Stebbins, Frederick H.
Steel, Jason W.
Swift, Walter A.
Swirsky, Joseph
Taft, Stephen S.
Talbot, Richard J.
Travernier, Alfred H.
Tilton, Rufus H.
Tyler, Arthur A.
Webster, Daniel E.
Wiley, Ray M.
Wooden & Small
Young, Charles H.

HOLYOKE

Avery, Gaylord & Davenport
Begley, John S.
Callahan & Lacy
Dearden, John B.
Dillon & Ross
Dowling, John P.
Drapeau, Charles E.
Evarts, Benjamin F.
Garvey, Patrick J.
Green & Bennett
Kelly, George F.
Lamontagne, Oscar O.
Lewandowski, J. W.
Lynch, Thomas J.
O'Brien & O'Brien
Judelson, David
Lacey, Hugh J.
Ogan & Ogan
Stapleton, Richard P.
Welcker, Merrill L.

WESTFIELD

Burke, F. W.
Ely & Ely
Neill, Arthur S. K.
Parker, Robert C.
Putnam, Harry B.

The subjoined are members of the bar, residing at various places within the county, not above listed: Aikey, George L.; Albrecht, Abraham S.; Alton, S. Ralph; Ashley, Henry W.; Bisson, Louis Alfred; Blair, Anne; Bodfish, Robert W.; Bonchi, Joseph A.; Bostwick, Arthur R.; Bosworth, Henry A.; Bowler, Katherine A.; Bromage, Harold J.; Brubacher, John; Buckley, William P.; Burdick, Harold J.; Burke, Florance W.; Burke, Thomas F.; Calhoun, Charles M.; Campion, Daniel G.; Carson, Francis X.; Cohn, Paul L.; Comerford, Michael J.; Coote, Thomas W.; Crean, C. J.; Crook, Douglas; Davis, James E.; Denison, John A.; Dillion, David F.; Dowd, John A.; Ducharme, Clement E.; Dunning, Harold G.; Eberhardt, Harry O.; Egan, James F.; Ehrlich, Robert; Ellis, Ralph W.; Ely, Charles F.; Fein, Irving; Finkelstein & Becker; Fitch, Arthur E.; Frankowski, J. A.; Gaines, L. C.; Genereux, J. C.; Genest, Ophir E.; Giles, William C.; Gillett, Frederick H.; Greeley, D. Joseph; Grife, Oscar; Gronkowski, Nicholas S.; Hafey, James E.; Haggarty, W. J.; Hallbourg, Henry W.; Hanford, Parmly; Hardy, Leonard F.; Hartley, Raphael B.; Bartnett, Joseph F.; Hartwell, Harold E.; Haskell, Frank E.; Hatch, Charles U.; Hawkins, William H.; Heady, Joseph W.; Heady, Wallace R.; Healy, James M.; Henin, Cora; Hemenway, Ralph W.; Hildreth, John; Hinckley, Frankley C.; Hoar, Ignatius M.; Hobson, Ernest E.; Hodskins, Frank G.; Hoffman, Maurice H.; Holmes, John McN.; Howard, Harold E.; Hurowitz, Isadore H.; Kane, John S.; Kellogg, Willis S.; Kelly, Joseph F.; Kennett, Frederick A.; Kenney, John J.; King, Clinton; King, Henry A.; King, Robert W.; Leiser, Andrew A.; Leonard, George; Long, Charles L.; Lyford, Edwin F.; Lynch, Daniel A.; Lynch, Eugene A.; Lynch, Frank A.; Lynch, John M.; Lyons, John J.; McMillon, John S.; Maher, Thomas C.; Miller, Henry S.; Mitchell & Mitchell; Moriarty, C. J.; Morin, George W.; Morris, Robert O.; McCrohan, Clarence J. D.; McDonnell & Galligher; McDonough, Wm. A.; McGlynn, Thomas F.; McKay, Frank J.; McClench, Wm. W.; Neal, Chester T.; Neal, Franklin G.; O'Connor, Thomas J.; O'Connor, Thomas J.; O'Connor, Wm. F.; O'Donnell, James J.; O'Donnell, Terrence B.; Orrell, Arthur E.; Palmer, George F.; Parker, Lewis C.; Quinlivan, Theodore F.; Raleigh, Frank T.; Rathbun,

William S.; Reno, Conrad; Richard, Fernand E.; Robertson, Frederick A.; Robinson, Homans; Ryan, Charles V., Jr.; Ryan, Edward J.; Sabin, Carl A.; Searle, Emerson S.; Sherb, Jacob; Sinclair, A. Olin; Slotnick, M. N.; Smith, Claribel H.; Smith, Clayton D.; Stapleton, Thomas H.; Stevenson, J. McAllister; Stoddard, Ralph W.; Stone, Milton A.; Sullivan, Philip J., Jr.; Tate, Dale S.; Taylor, Edward C.; Tierney, Paul E.; Warren, Thomas B.; Wharfield, W. Meredith; Whitman, Henry G.; Whitmore, George D.; Zimmerman, Benjamin.

Hampden County Civil List—The offices of county treasurer and register of deeds have been elective in Massachusetts since 1785. County commissioners were appointed by the Governor and Council until 1854, since which they have been elected by the people. The following list comprises the names and terms of service of the main county officials who have served since the organization of Hampden County in 1812, with the exceptions of coroners and medical examiners:

Judges of Probate—Samuel Fowler, 1812; John Hooker, 1813; Oliver B. Morris, 1829.

Judges of Probate and Insolvency—John Wells, 1858; William S. Shurtleff, 1859 to 1897; Charles L. Long, 1897 to present time (1925).

Register of Probate and Insolvency—William S. Shurtleff, 1859 to 1863; Samuel B. Spooner, 1863 to 1910; Fred G. Hodskins, 1910 to present date, 1925.

Sheriff—Jonathan Smith, Jr., 1812; John Phelps, 1814; Caleb Rice, 1831; Justin Wilson, 1851; Frederick Boise, 1853; Nathaniel Cutler, 1855; Robert G. Marsh, 1857; Frederick Bush, 1860; A. M. Bradley, 1869; H. Q. Sanderson, 1878 to 1887; Simon Brooks, 1887 to 1893; Embury P. Clark, 1893-to present, 1925.

Clerk of the Courts—John Ingersoll, 1812; Richard Bliss, 1841; George B. Morris, 1852; Robert O. Morris, 1872 to present, 1925.

County Treasurers—Edward Pynchon, 1812; David Paine, 1830; George Colton, 1835; William Rice, 1838; Norman Norton, 1856; Charles R. Ladd, 1859; M. Wells Bridge, 1867 to 1892; William C. Marsh, 1892 to 1895; M. Wells Bridge, 1895 to 1907; Fred A. Bearse, 1907 to present time, 1925.

Register of Deeds—Edward Pynchon, 1812; David Paine, 1830; William Russell, 1831; James E. Russell, 1858 to 1893; James R. Wells, 1893 to present time, 1925.

County Commissioners—Caleb Rice, 1828-31; Joel Norcross, 1828-35; Reuben Boies, Jr., 1828-35; William Bliss, 1831-35; James W. Crooks, 1835-38; Gideon Stiles, 1835-38; Cyrus Knox, 1835-38; John Ward, 1838-44; Patrick Boies, 1841-44; Forbes Kyle, 1841-44; Willis Phelps, 1844-47; Samuel Root, 1844-50; Austin Fuller, 1844-47; Benning Leavitt, 1847-50; John McCray, 1847-50; Norman T. Leonard, 1850-53; William V. Sessions, 1850-53; Melvin Copeland, 1850-53; William B. Calhoun, 1853-55; Alured Homer, 1853-57; George C. Gibbs, 1853-56; Francis Brewer, 1855-58; Henry Fuller, 1856-59; Henry F. Brown, 1857-60; Nelson D. Parks, 1858-64; Henry Charles, 1859-62; Henry Fuller, 1860-63; Benning Leavitt, 1862-65; Daniel G. Potter, 1863-69; Charles C. Wright, 1864-67; Ambrose N. Merrick, 1865-68; William M. Lewis, 1867-76; Phineas Stedman, 1868-71; Randolph Stebbins, 1868-71; George R. Townsley, 1871-74; James S. Loomis, 1871-74; Lawson Sibley, 1873-76; John O'Donnell, 1874-77; L. F. Thayer, 1875-78; N. S. Hubbard, 1876. One commissioner is elected each year and since the last named date the commissioners have been as follows: 1878—L. F. Thayer, N. S. Hubbard, Charles Edison; 1881—Ira G. Potter, Samuel A. Bartholomew, N. S. Hubbard; 1882—Leonard Clark, H. A. Chase, L. F. Root; 1884—L. F. Root, H. A. Chase, Leonard Clark; 1885—H. A. Chase, L. F. Root, Leonard Clark; 1886—H. A. Chase, Leonard Clark, and L. F. Root; 1887—L. F. Root, Leonard Clark, and A. F. Wildes; 1888—L. F. Root, Leonard Clark, A. F. Wildes; 1889—L. F. Root, Leonard Clark, A. F. Wildes; 1890—Harvey D. Bagg, L. F. Root, Leonard Clark; 1891—Leonard Clark, H. D. Bagg, L. F. Root; 1892—L. F. Root, H. D. Bagg, Leonard Clark; 1893—Leonard Clark, L. F. Root, H. D. Bagg; 1894—James M. Sickman, Leonard Clark, William H. Brainard; 1895—James M. Sickman, W. H. Brainard, Timothy M. Brown; 1896—Timothy M. Brown, W. H. Brainard, James M. Sickman; 1897—James M. Sickman, W. H. Brainard, Timothy M. Brown; 1898—James M. Sickman, Joel H. Hendrick, W. H. Brainard; 1899—James M. Sickman, Joel H. Hendrick, W. H. Brainard; 1900—Joel H. Hendrick, James M. Sickman, W. H. Brainard; 1901—Joel H. Hendrick, James M. Sickman, W. H. Brainard; 1902—Joel H. Hendricks, W. H. Brainard, James M. Sickman; 1903—James M. Sickman, W. D. Brainard, Joel H. Hendrick; 1904—Joel H. Hendrick, W. H. Brainard, James M. Sickman; 1905—Joel H. Hendrick, W. H. Brainard, James M. Sickman; 1906—Charles H. Nutting, Joel H. Hendrick, James M. Sick-

man; 1907—James M. Sickman, Charles H. Nutting, Charles C. Spellman; 1908—Charles H. Nutting, Charles C. Spellman, James M. Sickman; 1909—Charles C. Spellman, William H. Porter, James M. Sickman; 1910—James M. Sickman, William H. Porter, Charles C. Spellman; 1911—George W. Bray, Charles C. Spellman, William H. Porter; 1912—George W. Bray, William H. Ensign, Charles C. Spellman; 1913—George W. Bray, Charles C. Spellman, William H. Ensign; 1914—William H. Ensign, Charles C. Spellman, George W. Bray; 1915—Charles C. Spellman, George W. Bray, William H. Ensign; 1916—George W. Bray, Charles C. Spellman, William H. Ensign; 1917—Charles C. Spellman, William H. Ensign, George W. Bray; 1918—George W. Bray, Charles C. Spellman, William H. Ensign; 1919—William H. Ensign, Charles C. Spellman, George W. Bray; 1920—Charles C. Spellman, William H. Ensign, George W. Bray; 1921—Arthur A. Sibley, William E. Ensign, George S. Cook; 1923-24—W. H. Ensign, George S. Cook, Daniel O'Neil.

County Legislature—From the earliest formation of counties down to 1814, Courts of Sessions, or of General Sessions of the Peace, managed county affairs. These courts were made up of a number of justices of the peace from the several towns of the county, who met at the county seat at stated periods. As early as 1652, before the erection of Hampden County, three commissioners appointed to transact public business for the people of the Connecticut River settlements. These commissioners succeeded the early magistrates, and continued until the erection of Hampshire County, in 1662.

From 1814 to 1819 the county legislative body was styled the Court of Common Pleas, which was changed to "Court of Sessions" in February, 1819, and remained about the same until February, 1828, when an act was passed by the General Court repealing the act of 1819, and establishing for the transaction and management of county business, a board of commissioners for each county, in the state, consisting in the case of Hampden County, of three persons, to be appointed by the governor and council, and to hold their offices for the period of three years. They were clothed with the same authority as the Courts of Sessions, which they had superceded. They were to meet at stated periods, and the clerks of the Court of Common Pleas were made clerks of the boards of commissioners.

The county commissioners have control over the public buildings and all other property belonging to the county; also exercise jurisdiction over all highways, public bridges, etc.

By an act of March 11, 1854, the county commissioners were made elective, and divided into three classes. At the first election held in that year they were all elected at the same time, for one, two and three years, respectively, since which one commissioner has been elected annually. The chairman of the board is elected by ballot from among its members.

Population—The subjoined table shows the population of Hampden County at various enumeration periods, by the cities and towns; also the date each town was incorporated:

Town Name	Date of Incorporation	Population 1776	Population 1860	Population 1900	Population 1925
Agawam	1855	.....	1,700	2,530	6,291
Blandford	1741	772	1,256	836	437
Brimfield	1731	1,064	1,363	941	840
Chester	1765	405	1,314	1,450	1,513
Chicopee	1848	.....	7,261	19,167	41,885
East Longmeadow	1894	.....	.....	.....	3,134
Granville	1754	1,126	1,385	1,050	609
Holland	1785	.....	419	1,609	141
Holyoke	1850	.....	4,997	45,712	60,982
Hampden	1878	.....	.....	782	632
Longmeadow	1783	.....	1,376	811	3,333
Ludlow	1774	413	1,174	3,536	8,802
Monson	1760	813	3,164	3,492	5,094
Montgomery	1780	.....	371	273	191
Palmer	1752	727	4,082	7,801	11,075
Russell	1792	.....	605	793	1,395
Southwick	1770	841	1,188	1,040	1,267
Springfield	1636	1,974	15,199	62,059	142,224
Tolland	1810	.....	596	275	150
Wales	1762	850	677	733	434
West Springfield	1774	1,774	2,105	7,105	15,326
Wilbraham	1763	1,057	2,081	1,594	2,834
Westfield	1699	1,488	5,055	12,310	19,061

The figures given for 1925 are from the State census and all others are from the United States census reports.

CHAPTER III

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION IN HAMPDEN COUNTY

The name of Dr. John Sherman is probably the earliest recorded of any regular physician in what is now known as Hampden County. He was not only a doctor of registry, but a school-teacher also. One Dr. Leonard is mentioned in 1728 as having been paid by Springfield for certain medical attendance on an indigent patient. Between 1761 and 1783 the physicians practicing in Springfield were Charles Pynchon, Edward Chapin, John Vanhorn and Timothy Cooper. It was in November, 1781, that the Massachusetts Medical Society received its charter, with authority to grant licenses to practice medicine.

During the fifty-nine years from 1781 to 1840, when the Hampden District Medical Society was incorporated, there were thirty-two physicians in the county who were members of the State Medical Society. They received and imparted knowledge through office instruction and clinical observations made by medical preceptors on private patients. It was in this time that many students are known to have studied and driven about with their teachers in medical practice. Medical colleges then were in their infancy. They were unable to furnish as good opportunities for personal observations on the sick, and they were lacking in facilities for laboratory work.

Joseph Pynchon, son of Col. John Pynchon and a descendant in the fifth generation of the founder of Springfield, was born in 1705, in the "old fort" or Pynchon residence which stood near the present site of the Henry L. Bowles building. He was educated both for the ministry and the medical profession, and for a time devoted himself to clerical work, but later to the practice of medicine in Longmeadow. He was a man of high character and excellent ability, and at one time was a member of the General Court.

Charles Pynchon, brother of Joseph, was born in Springfield in 1819 in the Pynchon residence, and spent the greater part of his life in the town. All his biographers agree that Dr. Pynchon was a man of excellent understanding and a physician of good repute, having a large practice. Many medical students acquired their early professional training under his personal instruction. His office was on Main Street, the second house above Ferry Street,

where Hotel Springfield now stands. In 1777 Dr. Pynchon was a surgeon in the American Army. He died August 19, 1783.

Joshua Frost, one of the earliest physicians of Springfield, was born in Maine in 1767, of English parentage. He was educated for his profession in Dartmouth College and Harvard University, and in 1796 located in Longmeadow, where he remained a few years and then removed to Springfield. He enjoyed an excellent reputation as a physician, and he was honored with a seat in the State Senate. He died in 1832.

George Frost, son of Joshua, was born in Longmeadow in 1800, and acquired his early medical education under the instruction of Dr. Nathan Smith, whom he accompanied in lecturing tours. He studied medicine in Yale and also in Bowdoin, was graduated at the latter in 1822, and began practice in Springfield in 1823. He lived in the town until his death, in 1846. Dr. Frost's wife was a daughter of Col. Roswell Lee, who for some time was commander at Fort Griswold (New London, Conn.) during the War of 1812-15, the same who gave the name to the Roswell Lee Lodge of Masons.

L. W. Belden pursued scientific and medical studies in Yale, graduated in 1826, and began his professionel career in Springfield in 1827. He became a member of the State Medical Society in 1835, and died in 1839, aged 38 years.

M. B. Baker was a graduate of Harvard in 1830, and located in Springfield the next year. He became a member of the State Medical Society in 1836, and died in 1839, at the age of 33 years.

David Bemis became a member of the State society in 1832. He practiced about twenty-five years in Chicopee, and died in 1852, at the age of fifty-four years. At one time Dr. Bemis was president of the Hampden District Medical Society, and is recalled as one of its most active members.

Oliver Bliss was made a member of the State society in 1822. He practiced for several years in Longmeadow, and descended from one of the first settlers in that vicinity. He died in 1840, aged sixty-eight years.

William Bridgman was born in 1784, and was one of the board of organization of the Hampden District Medical Society. He is remembered as one of the leading physicians of his day. He became a member of the State society in 1822, and died in 1864.

Reuben Champion was one of the foremost physicians of his time, and was descended from old Revolutionary stock, his grand-

father having served as surgeon during the war, dying at Ticonderoga in 1777. Dr. Champion acquired his early education in the old Westfield Academy, and his medical education at Dartmouth and also in a school for medical instruction in New York City. He began practice in West Springfield in 1809, and joined the State society in 1812. His practice covered a period of half a century, and he died in 1865. In his practice he adopted the "tonic treatment" of fever cases, a theory then much opposed by the profession; but he was a physician of excellent reputation, and an upright and honored citizen. The civil list shows that Dr. Champion served as State Senator.

Alonzo Chapin, a member of the State society enjoyed a good reputation in active Springfield practice in the early thirties before removing to Vermont. He was a direct descendant of Deacon Samuel Chapin, one of the prominent men of Springfield in earliest days. Dr. W. L. Fitch who started practice in Chester and Huntington, joined the State society in 1837 and moved to Springfield, where he died in 1872, aged 69 years.

Dr. John Van Horn, just mentioned, as one of the "old Guard" physicians of the county, was born in 1726, graduated at Yale, 1749, and joined the State society in 1785. For nearly sixty years he practiced in West Springfield, and is said to have been a man of more than ordinary professional eminence. He died in 1805.

Chauncey Brewer was another of the old-time physicians of Springfield, a native of the town, born in 1743. He received his professional education in Yale Medical College. He was a physician of exceptional strength for his time; but he is held in especial remembrance by the profession on account of his faithful services in the American Army during the revolution. He was a student with Dr. Charles Pynchon and began his professional career in West Springfield, being family physician and life-long friend of Dr. Lathrop, minister of the Old First Congregational Church there. When Dr. Charles Pynchon died, he succeeded to the practice of his old preceptor, at Cypress Street, on the east side again, dying in his native Springfield in 1837.

Daniel Chauncey Brewer, son of Chauncey, studied for the medical profession, but soon afterward became partner with Dr. Joshua Frost and carried on a drug business.

Gideon Kibbe was a highly respected physician of Wilbraham, where he practiced for thirty-seven years previous to his death, in 1859. He became a member of the State society in 1822.

Aaron King, of Palmer, became a member of the society in 1816, and died in 1861. For many years he was one of the highly respected medical practitioners of the eastern part of the county, and he is also remembered as having been one of the organizers, and at one time president of the Hampden district society. In the latter part of his life Dr. King became interested in Homoeopathy.

Samuel Kingsbury was born in Tolland, Connecticut, September, 1782, and practiced medicine in Springfield from 1810 to 1826. He became a member of the State society in 1816.

Seth Lathrop, son of Rev. Dr. Joseph Lathrop, was born in the second parish of Springfield (West Springfield), in 1762, and was one of the strongest as well as one of the most thoroughly educated of the old-time physicians of the county. His practice was extensive and successful, and he also had the confidence and respect of the people on the east side of the river. He was made a fellow of the State society in 1817, and continued in membership until his death in 1831.

Jonathan Shearer, of Palmer, was born in 1767, became a member of the society in 1811, and died in 1825. His home and office were on the Boston road, between what is now Collins and Palmer stations. He was followed in practice by his son, Marcus Shearer, who joined the district society in 1841, and died in 1854.

George Hooker was born in 1794, and was admitted to fellowship in the State society in 1821. He practiced in Longmeadow and is remembered as a physician of good repute and a citizen of undoubted integrity. Dr. Hooker died in 1884, at the ripe age of 90 years.

Joseph W. Brewster, of Blandford, was made a fellow of the State society in 1804. He died in 1849.

Leonard Williams, of Chester, united with the society in 1822.

Edward Goodrich Ufford, of West Springfield and Agawam, was born in East Windsor, Connecticut, in 1801, became a fellow of the society in 1839, and died August 28, 1889. He studied medicine with Dr. Daniel Ufford of Wilbraham and with Dr. Peters of Bolton, Connecticut. He received his degree from Yale and then took a post-graduate course in Philadelphia. He practiced for a few years in West Springfield, thence removed to South Hadley, but returned to West Springfield, and Agawam.

Lucius Wright, once well known in medical circles in at least three towns of Hampden County, and withal an excellent physician of the old school, was born in 1793 and became a member of

the society in 1821. He began his professional career in Williamsett, later practiced in Salem and Montgomery, and finally located in Westfield, where he attained considerable prominence and was one of the towns' legislative representatives.

John Stone was born in Rutland, Massachusetts, in 1763. He had the advantages of a good general as well as medical education. He read medicine with Dr. John Frink and began his career in Greenfield, removing thence to New York, where he remained about two years. Returning to Greenfield, he practiced in that town until 1819, and spent the next ten years in Providence. He then came to Springfield and practiced until his death in 1838.

Dr. John Long was a noted practitioner in "Ireland" parish (now Holyoke). Dr. Henry Bronson, settled in West Springfield in 1827, the same year he received his Yale degree in medicine. While he remained only a few years before removing to Albany, he was greatly respected throughout the community. He was professor of materia medica at Yale for many years, and was noted for his admirable and instructive lectures. Levi W. Humphries of Southwick was made a fellow of the State society in 1822; was one of the organizers of the district society later and died, highly honored, in 1850. Joseph Henshaw Flint was one of the original charter members of the district medical society. Born in Leicester, in 1786, he graduated at Harvard, and built up an extensive practice in Northampton as well as in Springfield where he made his home for several years. He also had a large consulting practice throughout Western Massachusetts. Dr. Bela Jones, of wide reputation in the same region, was at one time Dr. Flint's partner. He died in 1846. Dr. Austin Flint of New York City, widely known, was a son by Dr. Joseph Flint's first wife.

Dr. James Holland, born in 1762, acquired his medical education in practice with Dr. Brewster of Becket. He practiced successfully in what is now Huntington and in Worthington before coming to Westfield in 1815, which was the scene of his greatest activity, ending with his death in 1840. Four of his sons became physicians almost as prominent as the father, in their respective communities. The brothers Holland, with the inspiration of a widely-honored parent all became eminent in medicine. Homer, born in Blandford and educated at Yale Medical School, was particularly successful. James Holland, Jr., was born in 1815, studied medicine with his father, and was a graduate of the medical department of the University of New York. He began practice in Westfield in 1843. He

was a shrewd reasoner and careful student, and of course he attained success, not only in professional life, but also in social and public affairs of the town. Dr. Charles Jenkins Holland, another son of James, senior, was educated for the profession and practiced in Chester Village, now Huntington; but he died comparatively young, as did his gifted brother, Dr. Virgil Holland. Samuel Mather, one of the pioneers of the State society of which he became a member in 1783, was another of the noted old-time doctors of excellent reputation. John Appleton was another of the old-school practitioners and his quality was recognized by the district society which gave him the office of the first secretary, 1840 to 1842.

Jefferson Church, was a native of Middlefield, Hampshire County, born in 1802, and in 1825 was graduated at Berkshire Medical College. He practiced one year in Peru, Berkshire County, and then removed to Springfield, where the best years of his life were spent, and where he attained a standing of prominence in the ranks of the profession, not alone as a practitioner, but as publisher in 1850, in association with Dr. Edgar Seeger, of "Tully's Materia Medica," a work which for a long time was regarded as standard authority. He also took an earnest interest in public affairs and was known as an intense anti-slavery advocate. Dr. Church died in Springfield in 1885, aged 83 years.

Edward Seeger, co-worker with Dr. Church in publishing Dr. Tully's medical manuscripts, was born in Northampton in 1811, and was of German ancestry. He graduated at Jefferson Medical College in 1832, and at once located for practice in Springfield. Thereafter he was a conspicuous figure in local professional and political circles for thirty-four years, until his death in 1866. Politically Dr. Seeger affiliated with the abolitionists and free-soilers, and was one of their ablest exponents of party principles. He also was a logical writer on medical and political subjects, and as a practitioner he had few peers. Dr. Seeger's first wife was a sister of the late Homer Foot, a foremost citizen of old-time Springfield.

W. L. Loring, a graduate of Harvard Medical School, was a practitioner in Springfield something like five years, beginning about 1825. While he was a man of excellent capacity, unfortunately did not enjoy a lucrative practice. Casting about for a method to make quick and easy money, he adopted what is called "body snatching," disposing of his "subjects" by sale to various medical institutions. For this flagrant violation of law and propriety the doctor was arrested, tried, found guilty and sentenced

to pay a fine of $500. Soon afterward he removed from Springfield.

James Swan, a graduate of Harvard and Jefferson Medical colleges, located in Springfield in 1834 and continued in active practice until 1836, when he died. He was a physician of excellent repute, a man of fine social qualities and a respected citizen. Outside of professional work he was a firm advocate of temperance and also an ardent Odd Fellow.

Henry Bronson, who practiced a few years in West Springfield, came to that town directly from his medical course in Yale, having graduated in 1827. Three years later he removed to Albany, where he gained celebrity as a writer on scientific and medical subjects and relinquished active practice in 1860. In 1872 he was called to a professorship in the medical department of Yale.

Calvin Wheeler was an early practitioner in Feeding Hills parish when that region was a part of West Springfield. He served as surgeon in the American Army during the second war with Great Britain, and was a good physician for his time, although his methods were "old-fashioned." He died in 1861.

Chauncey Belden, who practiced in West Springfield and its vicinity for ten years beginning in 1832, was a graduate of Yale Medical School in 1829, and after leaving college he was for a time an assistant in the Hartford retreat for the insane. In connection with his professional work Dr. Belden gave special attention to scientific studies and was regarded as a man of wide understanding in all professional and social circles. He removed to South Hadley in 1842, and died there three years afterward. Herbert C. Belden, who began practice in West Springfield in 1871, was a graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York, and was a son of Chauncey Belden.

Dr. William Tully began the study of medicine in 1807 under the instruction of Dr. Coggswell, of Hartford, and in the following year he attended lectures in the medical department of Dartmouth. Later on his attention was chiefly devoted to increasing his understanding of elementary medicine, after which he was licensed to practice by the president and fellows of the Connecticut Medical Society. In 1819 he received the honorary Yale degree of Doctor of Medicine. In 1811 he began practice in Enfield, the next year removed to Milford, and thence in 1816 to Middletown. In 1820 he published an article on the "Ergot of Rye," and in 1823, in association with Dr. Thomas Miner, he issued a volume entitled "Essays on Fevers and other Medical Subjects." Dr. Tully came

to Springfield in 1851, and from that time to his death in 1859 he was a prominent figure, devoting himself to active practice and also to the authorship of various works on medical subjects. Drs. Church and Seeger published in two large volumes his work on "Materia Medica," and "Pharmacology and Therapeutics," and while his manuscripts were not fully completed, the work was regarded as standard authority.

A Dr. Caswell, of Ludlow, enjoyed an excellent reputation as a country doctor. Dr. Marcus Cady, of South Wilbraham, and his brother, Henry Cady, of Monson, both physicians of good repute; Dr. McKinstry, of Monson; Dr. Johnson, of Granville; Ezra Osborne, of Springfield, who practiced from 1815 to 1830; Dr. Sparhawk, whose period of practice was about 1820; Ebenezer Jones, of West Springfield, who removed to the eastern part of the state; Timothy Horton; Dr. Dunham, of West Springfield; Edward McCrea, who settled in Agawam in 1832, and died in 1859; Sumner Ives, who was born in the "Ireland parish" and who practiced in that locality from 1826 to 1831, when he removed to Suffield; and Solomon Chapman, who succeeded Dr. Ives in 1832, and who, in turn, was succeeded in 1850 by Dr. Lawson Long, are all names reflecting marked credit on the medical profession in Hampden County.

Also may be mentioned the names of Edward Strong, graduate of Harvard Medical School in 1838, who retired from active professional work in 1845 and became associated with the department of vital statistics in Boston; Hiram Bartholomew, dispenser of botanical curatives, and widely known as an "eclectic physician"; Nathaniel Downs, who settled in West Springfield in 1857 and soon afterward removed to the eastern part of the state; George Filer, of Westfield, one of the early physicians of that town, who is said to have settled there about 1666, but who subsequently joined the Quaker colony on Long Island; Israel Ashley, of Westfield, descendant of one of the colonists of Springfield, a graduate of Yale in 1730, and one of the best physicians of his day; William Atwater, son of Rev. Noah Atwater, of Westfield, a graduate of Yale and a practitioner in the town previous to 1830; Joshua Sumner, of Westfield, who came about the time of the Revolution and was noted for his skill in surgery, were also famous and worthy "doctors" of the region.

Westfield, like Springfield, was noted as the abiding-place of many old-time physicians. In addition to those previously men-

tioned were Dr. M. L. Robinson, one of the few men of medicine who was born and educated in New York State and subsequently came to practice in the locality; Simeon Shurtleff, a native of Blandford, a pupil of Dr. Cooley's famous school in Granville, and a graduate of Amherst; William Orton Bell, a native of Chester and a graduate of the Berkshire Medical School; and Ellery C. Clarke, a graduate of the University of Vermont, and a surgeon in the army during the war of 1861-5.

In Southwick we find the names of Isaac Coit, said to have been its first physician, and a patriot of the Revolution; Drs. Jonathan Bill, J. W. Rockwell and a Dr. Norton; both the latter active members of the district society and among its most earnest advocates. In Granville were Dr. Vincent Holcomb, the latter an army surgeon and afterward in practice in Blandford; Dr. Calvin King, who succeeded Dr. Holcomb; Dr. Barlow who removed to New York and became a convert to Homoeopathy; Dr. Dwight; Dr. Johnson, who succeeded Dr. Dwight; Dr. Jesse Bigelow, the pioneer physician in Granville. The names of Drs. C. W. Bartlett and Edward P. Mountain are also associated with Granville history.

Up in the mountainous regions of the western part of the county, in Chester, there were such excellent professionals as Dr. David Shepard, who was here previous to the Revolution; Drs. William Holland and Martin Phelps, the latter the successor of the former and a prominent figure in church and Democratic political circles; Anson Boies, a native of Blandford; Dr. Ballard, successor to Dr. Boies, and who was in turn succeeded by Dr. DeWolf; Ebenezer Emmons, physician and geologist and later professor of chemistry in Williams College; Asahel Permenter, son of Deacon Parmenter and who afterward removed to Pennsylvania; Joseph C. Abbott; Dr. Crossett; Dr. Noah S. Bartlett; H. S. Lucas, a physician of more than ordinary reputation, and who combined knowledge of geology with that of medicine; and also Drs. Hall, Wright and Taylor, each of whom once was in practice in that town. In Blandford one of the first physicians was Dr. Ashley, as early as 1745, and after him came Joseph W. Brewster, Silas P. Wright and William B. Miller, the latter having removed to Springfield about 1870. Thaddeus K. B. Wolf (1801-1890), locating in Chester in 1832, became one of the best known physicians of that region. His son, Oscar, became a practicing physician in London, England.

In Wilbraham the physicians in earlier times were Drs. John Stearns, Gordon Percival, Samuel F. Merrick (a Revolutionary

patriot), Judah Bliss (about 1800), Abiah Southworth, Converse Butler, Luther Brewer, Jacob Lyman, Elisha Ladd, Jesse W. Rice (a widely respected and influential citizen as well as an excellent physician), Edwin Thayer, Charles Bowker, Stebbins Foskit, Abiel Bottom, William B. Carpenter, John Goodale, Daniel Ufford.

In Wales the succession is about as follows: James Lawrence, 1746-78; Dudley Wade, 1779-83; Abel Sherman, 1783-86; Jeremiah Round, 1787-89; David Young, 1790-1802; Ferdinand Lethbridge, 1805-11; Thaddeus Fairbanks, 1812-15; Daniel Tiffany, 1812-22; Aaron Shaw, 1813-45; John Smith, 1815-65.

In Holland the profession was early represented by Thomas Wallis (1786), Seth Smith, Ichabod Hyde (1812), David B. Dean, Joshua Richardson, Chileab B. Merrick, Josiah Converse, Abiel Bottom and Josiah G. Wallis.

The Longmeadow succession includes, among others, Rial Strickland, George Hooker, Thomas L. Chapman, R. P. Markham, Eleazer S. Beebe, John A. McKinstry.

In Monson the list includes the names of Joseph Grout and Dr. Anderson, about 1785; Ede Whittaker, 1790-1840, and Ephraim Allen as his cotemporary; Oliver McKinstry, 1820-45; Reuben Gardner, about 1840; and also Drs. Ware, Cullen and Haywood, Isaac Carpenter, Alvin Smith, Homer A. Smith, David Calkins, George E. Fuller.

The Chicopee list of old-time physicians includes the names of Amos Skeele (1804-43), J. R. Wilbur, Alvord Norfolk, George Washington Denison (1846-73), and William George Smith.

In the Ludlow general list are the names of Aaron John Miller (born 1750, served during the Revolution, and died, 1838), Francis Percival, Benjamin Trask (1777), Dr. Wood, Simpson Ellis, David Lyon, Sylvester Nash, Philip Lyon, Drs. Tainton, Sutton, Munger and Hamilton, Estes Howe, Elijah Campbell, W. B. Alden, Dr. Bassett, R. G. English, William B. Miller; Henry M. T. Smith, Robert Wood, Dr. King, Benjamin K. Johnson, T. W. Lyman.

In Palmer from the available records are taken the names of Marcus Shearer, Alanson Moody, Drs. White, Barron and Cummings; J. K. Warren, A. C. Downing, Amasa Davis, Mason B. Thomas, F. W. Calkins, Dr. Blair, Dr. William Walradt and Dr. Silas Ruggles.

It is quite true that members of the State society were largely outnumbered by those not members. Many of the leading doctors of early days, were so thoroughly engrossed in the medical needs

of their own chosen districts that they had no time for affiliation for either practical or social reasons with the State organization, being well content with well-earned prominence in their own communities. This prominence sometimes, too, took the form of honors given them gladly by their fellow citizens; and many were also enabled to shine in literary, civil and political ways.

In the histories of the several towns further allusion is made to many early physicians as citizens. Had early legislation regarding the profession been mandatory instead of optional in respect to membership in the State and district societies, this record could be more complete.

The Hampden District Medical Society was instituted May 30, 1840, under a charter granted by the councilors of the Massachusetts Medical Society to Joseph H. Flint, William Bridgman, George Hooker, Aaron King, Bela B. Jones, Reuben Champion, John Appleton and L. W. Humphreys, each of whom is mentioned earlier in this chapter. They were the incorporators and original members of the society, and appear to have been its only members during the first year. Dr. Champion was the first president, Dr. Bridgman the first vice-president, and Dr. Appleton the first secretary and treasurer.

James Morven Smith, for twelve years the acknowledged head of the medical profession in Hampden County and one of the most distinguished physicians of his time in New England, was born in Hanover, N. H., in 1806, the son of Dr. Nathan Smith, who was an eminent physician and a medical lecturer and author of wide repute. James M. Smith graduated at Yale, located in Westfield in 1830, practiced in that town until 1838, when he removed to Baltimore, Md. In 1841 he came to Springfield and engaged in professional work until the time of his death in a railway disaster at Norwalk, Connecticut, in 1853. He, in association with Reuben A. Chapman and William B. Calhoun, conceived the idea of establishing a medical school in Springfield, which lived but a few years.

Dr. Henry R. Vaille was a native of Vermont, born in Marlboro, in 1809. He was graduated at Williams College in 1835, and soon afterward became the first (and the last) principal of the town school in School Street in Springfield. He then turned his attention to medicine and pursued a course of reading with Dr. Joshua Frost, later attended the Pittsfield Medical Institute, and finally finished his medical education in Paris. He began practice in

Longmeadow, but upon the death of his old preceptor he succeeded to the practice of the latter in Springfield. His professional life was abundantly successful and in his prime his practice was far greater than that of any other physician in the city. At one time during the war of 1861-5 he was in the service of the Christian Commission, and in the fall of 1863 he spent some time in the hospitals at Middletown, Md., after the battles of South Mountain and Antietam. Dr. Vaille died July 15, 1885. He was a popular and skillful physician, thorough in every professional work, and having an especial regard for the interests and comfort of all with whom he was brought into association.

Dr. Pierre LeBreton Stickney, whose professional life in this county was spent in the towns of West Springfield, Chicopee and Springfield, was born in Newburyport, May 19, 1814, the son of Capt. David and Elizabeth LeBreton Stickney. He prepared for college in Bradford and Phillips Andover academies and graduated at Dartmouth in 1839. His medical education was acquired in Jefferson Medical College (Phila.), where he received his degree in 1842. He settled in West Springfield in 1845 and removed to Indiana in 1851. Three years later he returned east and located in Chicopee, where he practiced with unvarying success until 1870, when he came to Vernon Street, Springfield, his subsequent home. He died November 5, 1887, having spent nearly forty years of his active and very successful professional life in this vicinity. He was held in the highest regard by the profession, to whom his worth was fully known.

Dr. John Hooker, during his active life a prominent figure in professional, political and social circles in Springfield, was a native of Charlton, Massachusetts, born January 30, 1817, and died at his State Street home in Springfield in 1892. His father was a carpenter and joiner by trade, and his mother, Polly Winslow, was a direct descendant of Kenelen Winslow, a Puritan who came to America in the Mayflower in 1620. At the age of sixteen years John began to learn the trade of his father, but having soon afterward determined to fit himself for the practice of medicine, he became a student under Dr. Lamb, of Charlton. He took his degree from the Berkshire Medical School in Pittsfield. At the time of the "gold fever" in California he went from Worcester to New York with the intention to sail for the Pacific slope, and to that end procured a passage ticket. Then he suddenly changed his mind, disposed of his ticket at a good premium, and came to

Springfield. He opened an office near where now stands the city hall. In 1870 he was a member of the board of aldermen and in 1875 was a city physician. Previous to 1870 he was a Democrat, but afterward he was allied to the Republican Party. During the later years of his life he relinquished much of his practice to his son, Charles P. Hooker.

William Gilman Breck, whose splendid, striking personality for so many years made him an attractive figure in Springfield social circles, also enjoyed the reputation of being one of the leading physicians and surgeons in the Connecticut Valley. He was born in Franklin County, Vermont, in November, 1818, and died in Chicopee while on a professional visit to Vicar-General Healy, on January 22, 1889. When quite young he removed with his parents to Ohio, and acquired his elementary education in the famous college at Oberlin, and also in Harvard University, where he was graduated. He attended medical lectures in New York City, and in 1844 began his professional career in New Orleans. Two years later be came to Springfield, and for the next forty-three years was an active factor in medical and business circles. For a time he practiced as senior partner in the firm of Breck & Gray. During the war of 1861-65 he was sent to the front by Governor Andrew as consulting surgeon, and was present at several memorable battles. His knowledge of medicine was thorough and as a surgeon his skill was known far beyond the limits of his county. Succeeding Dr. C. C. Chaffee in that position for thirty years he was surgeon for the Boston & Albany and the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad companies. But outside of his professional life Dr. Breck was deeply interested in the growth and prosperity of Springfield and was thoroughly loyal to its institutions, taking an especial interest in the work of the city hospital. He also was one of the pioneers in the development of Round Hill, and built the first residence there in the rear of Memorial Church.

Thomas Luce Chapman, who was virtually retired from active professional work when he removed from Longmeadow to Springfield to live with his father-in-law, the late Marvin Chapin, was born in Pittsfield in 1817, and acquired his early medical education in the Berkshire Medical Institute. Through his early association with Dr. Brooks he became in every respect a competent and honorable physician, and one who enjoyed a large practice and wide social acquaintance. He settled in Longmeadow in 1842 and for the next thirty and more years (except a short time spent in

California), devoted his untiring energies to professional work and to several other enterprises. He was secretary and treasurer of the district medical society in 1847-49, vice-president in 1871-72, and president in 1872-74. Dr. Chapman is remembered as a large-hearted and public-spirited citizen, especially to the poor, and interested in all worthy charities. The Springfield Home for Aged Women was founded chiefly through his endeavors. Politically he was a Republican and was in the State Senate in 1864. Dr. Chapman died August 20, 1889.

Dr. Nathan Adams was for many years a familiar figure in medical circles in Springfield, although the complete success of his career as a physician was somewhat marred by the effects of an unfortunate accident which impaired his general health. He was born May 6, 1813, and was graduated from the medical department of Yale in 1836. In 1844, after six years of hospital practice in New York, he settled in Springfield, and soon attained a prominent standing in the ranks of the profession. In 1856 he was elected to the common council. In 1865 an accident compelled him to give up practice temporarily, after which he travelled extensively and lived elsewhere than in Springfield. Dr. Adams died October 2, 1888, while temporarily residing with his daughter in Marblehead.

Dr. Harlow Gamwell, late of Westfield, was born in Washington, Massachusetts, in 1834, the son of Martin Gamwell, a patriot of the Revolution. Harlow acquired his early medical education in the Berkshire Medical College, where he graduated in 1858, and began his professional career in Huntington in 1859. In 1861 he was appointed assistant surgeon of the 2d Massachusetts Cavalry, serving in that capacity fourteen months, when he was made surgeon of the 5th Cavalry. Just before the close of the war ill-health compelled him to resign his commission, upon which he returned to Huntington, and thence removed to Westfield in 1873. Here he afterward lived and died, his professional life having been a complete success, while socially he enjoyed the respect and esteem of the entire townspeople. His practice was varied and extensive, and in whatever capacity he was called he acquitted himself with honor. Dr. Gamwell died August 11, 1898. He was twice married, his second wife being a daughter of Dr. Thaddeus K. DeWolf of Chester.

Dr. Varillas L. Owen, for many years a physician of excellent standing in Springfield, was born in 1825, and died in 1897. He was educated in old Chester Academy and the medical department of

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Harvard, graduating at the latter in 1852. He came into medical practice well equipped for hard work. On the occasion of his death the resolutions adopted by the members of the district medical society said of Dr. Owen: "That the society of which he was for many years a member, actively and usefully, hereby expresses its deep sense of the loss in him of a most agreeable companion and faithful co-worker."

Dr. David P. Smith, son of Dr. James Morven Smith, was born in Westfield, October 1, 1830, graduated at Yale College in 1851, and at Jefferson Medical College in 1853. With a splendid mental equipment and the fortunate prestige of being the son of one of the most distinguished physicians which the county ever had known, the young doctor came into practice in the same year in which his father was killed by the accident previously referred to and much of the practice to which he succeeded was retained by him until his departure for Europe in 1860 to still further educate himself in the University at Edinburgh, Scotland. However, at the end of a single year he returned to Springfield and entered the service as surgeon of the 18th Mass. Infantry, only to be advanced to the rank of brigade surgeon, and later to medical director of the division. Returning to Springfield, he engaged in active practice until 1872, when he made another extended European tour, and on his return in 1873 he was made professor of theory and practice in Yale medical department. In 1877 he was transferred to the chair of surgery, and in 1878, in addition to his other duties, he was appointed lecturer on medical jurisprudence. During his active professional life Dr. Smith was vice-president of the Massachusetts Medical Society, post surgeon of the U. S. Armory, at Springfield, president of the board of medical examiners for pensions, and medical director of the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company.

Dr. James H. Waterman, at the time of his death medical examiner and town physician of Westfield, and one of the leading men of his profession in western Hampden County, was born in Ware in 1837 and came to practice in Westfield in 1860, fresh from his graduation from the medical department of the University of Buffalo. In November, 1862, he was appointed surgeon of the 46th Massachusetts Infantry, and served in that capacity about two years. He died November 23, 1887.

Dr. George Washington Davis, of Holyoke, president of the district medical society in 1892-93 was born in Northfield, Vt., March 26, 1847 and died September 4, 1894. He was one of the most schol-

arly physicians in that city, and one whose life was given to study as well as to practice. He first read medicine in his native town, and in 1866 attended lectures at the Pittsfield Medical School, later at the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, and still later at Burlington, Vermont, where he was graduated in 1868. He practiced first in Craftsbury, Vt., and came to Holyoke in 1871. In that city he achieved his greatest success. He took a post-graduate course in New York in 1876, and another in Philadelphia in 1882. In 1884 he studied in the great university of Cologne.

Dr. Stephen Wallace Bowles was born in Machias, Me., in 1835, graduated at Williams College in 1856, and acquired his early medical education in the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York, graduating in 1859. During the war of 1861-65, he was for a time on the hospital staff in the field and afterward served in the general hospital at Brattleboro, his whole service covering a period of three and one-half years. He also practiced two years in Brattleboro, a like time in Yonkers, N. Y., and came to Springfield in 1872. Dr. Bowles was a physician of excellent ability and an upright citizen. He died February 13, 1895.

Dr. James John O'Connor, Holyoke, one of the brightest lights of the profession in that city previous to his death, was born in Springfield, October 20, 1864, and died December 14, 1898. He was educated in the city schools and prepared for college under private instruction. In 1884 he entered the medical department of Harvard, and graduated in 1888. He then located in Holyoke and rapidly gained popularity by his professional work.

Dr. William J. Sawin was a respected physician of Chicopee Falls at the time of his death, December 3, 1877.

Dr. Horatio Gates Stickney, president of the society in 1877-78, for many years a respected physician of this locality, died December 5, 1878.

Drs. Alvin Smith, of Monson, Sanford Lawton, of Springfield, and Cyrus Bell, of Feeding Hills, died in 1882. Each was a well known, highly respected and competent physician in the community in which he lived and practiced.

Dr. Henry Charles Bowen died September 3, 1898, and the resolution adopted at the next meeting expresses deep regret at the loss of a valuable fellow member, "who died of typhoid fever in Cuba while serving his country as surgeon of the 2nd Massachusetts Militia in the Spanish War."

Dr. Erskine Erasmus Hamilton, who died in January, 1901, was

born in 1866, graduated at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1892, and was associated with medical practice in Springfield from that time until the latter part of 1900.

Harry A. Merchant, of Monson, who also died in 1901, gave brilliant promise of a rapid rise in the ranks of the profession. He was a son-in-law of Dr. George E. Fuller of Monson.

The Eastern Hampden Medical Association—During the latter part of 1879 three well-known physicians of the eastern towns of Hampden County—Dr. Fuller of Monson, Dr. George T. Ballard of Hampden, and Dr. W. H. Stowe of Palmer—were accustomed to meet about once a month at the house of one of them to discuss any events of more than usual importance in their professional work which had taken place during the preceding month; and to give added enjoyment to these occasions, the wives of these physicians would accompany them.

These little informal assemblages were found so agreeable and beneficial to the participants that on February 6, 1880, it was resolved to form the "Doctors' Club of Eastern Hampden," to adopt a constitution and by-laws and elect officers for the ensuing year. These officers were as follows: Dr. Fuller, president; Dr. Ballard, vice-president; Dr. Stowe, secretary and treasurer; and these with Drs. A. O. Squier and J. W. Hannum, directors.

Thus launched into existence with an original membership of five physicians, the Doctors' Club began its history with every promise of future usefulness, but without any intention on the part of its founders to extend to jurisdiction beyond the limits of a few of the eastern towns of the county. However, the good results which followed the early meetings soon spread their influence throughout the profession, and one addition after another gradually extended the membership west to the Connecticut and also into the counties adjoining Hampden.

This somewhat remarkable outspreading from a little informal social trio of medical men to a formal organization with large and constantly increasing membership, necessitated a change in the regulations, therefore, at a meeting held February 10, 1881, "censors" replaced "directors," and on March 10, of the same year the constitution was amended and the name changed.

The long and shining roll of physicians of comparatively recent years includes many names of men active not only professionally, but in various other phases of public life. Dr. C. C. Chaffee, born in

Saratoga, N. Y. and a graduate of the Vermont Medical College, settled in Springfield in 1847. Though a civilian professional he was the choice of Secretary Stanton for surgeon-general of the army, but his appointment was withdrawn in the face of strong army opposition. He was a member of the 34th and 35th Congresses. He was long a member of the examining board for pensions. His son, Clemens Chaffee, was chief of engineers on the staff of Gen. Sherman, and later ordnance officer at the Springfield Armory, dying in 1867. Dr. Theodore Frelinghuysen Breck, son of the already-mentioned Dr. W. G. Breck, and graduate of Harvard in 1866, studied medicine in the best European universities, and became a famous surgeon in the Connecticut valley. Dr. Samuel D. Brooks, born in Pittsfield, and a graduate of the Berkshire Medical College, came to Springfield from active practice in New York and for years was prominent in social as well as professional life. He was long on the State board of inspection for the State Primary School and Almshouse at Monson, of which he was at one time the head. Dr. Marshall Calkins has had an exceptionally long and honorable career in Springfield. Born in Wilbraham, he received his medical training by association with Dr. Calvin Newton of Worcester, hospital experience in Philadelphia, and the full course at Dartmouth Medical College, from which he received his degree, as well as lengthy visits to hospitals in London, Edinburgh, Paris and Vienna, all of which gave him a very broad knowledge. This was augmented by some years of practice in England with Sir Joseph Lister. Besides membership in all the Massachusetts Medical societies, he was also a member of the Vermont Medical Society, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He was long professor of Physiology and Microscopic Anatomy at the University of Vermont. His son, Dr. Cheney H. Calkins, has enjoyed an extensive practice in Springfield.

Dr. David Clark, president of the Hampden Medical Society in 1876 and 77, was graduated from Antioch College; studied medicine at Bellevue Hospital Medical College in New York; and received his degree from the medical college of the University of Pennsylvania. He came to Springfield in 1869, where he now resides, universally beloved and in a city which delights to do him honor. He was an officer in the Union Army for the period of the Civil War; surgeon of the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, 1872-1895; Medical director 1st Brigade, M. V. M., 1895-97; and U. S. examiner for pensions from 1897 to the present. Dr. J. H. Carmichael (1851-

1925), long surgeon-in-chief of the Wesson Memorial Hospital, graduated from the medical school of Union College, N. Y., in 1873, beginning his career as a successful practitioner in Worcester, and Warren, Mass. He took a post-graduate course at the New York Homeopathic Hospital, making abdominal surgery his specialty. Immediately after his arrival in Springfield in 1889, he aided in promoting the Hampden Homeopathic Hospital which later became the Wesson Memorial Hospital, founded by the millionaire manufacturer of small-arms, Daniel B. Wesson. Dr. Carmichael will be long remembered as one of best judges of horses in the Eastern States, and as owner, and often driver, of some of the most valuable trotters and pacers. Dr. Robert Parker Ames (1856-1913) received his degree from Jefferson Medical College in 1880. He saw much active service with the United States Navy, and was a member of numerous medical societies. Dr. Charles P. Hooker (1845-1915) was the son of the famous Dr. John Hooker, and enjoyed a long practice in Springfield. Dr. Angelo O. Squier, born in Westfield in 1854, prepared for his quarter century of practice in Springfield at Long Island College Hospital; and was for some years on the active staff of the old Hampden Hospital. Dr. Wallace Howe Dean was born in Connecticut in 1852. He settled in Blandford, after receiving his degree from Yale Medical College in 1877. In 1887 until the time of his death in 1920 he was an active member, and for a time the president of the Hampden District Medical Society. It has not been possible to include all the worthy members of the Western Massachusetts medical profession in our necessarily limited space. Otherwise, those of present recollection should include more than mere mention of such shining lights of the profession in Hampden County as Dr. Horace Jacobs, Dr. Sanford Lawton, Dr. George B. Foster, Dr. H. A. Collins, Dr. John Blackmer, Dr. George M. Swazey, Dr. E. B. Adams, Dr. O. W. Roberts, Dr. Herbert Clark Emerson, Dr. William H. Pomeroy, Dr. Daniel J. Brown, Dr. George H. Finch, Dr. Alexander McClean, Dr. George B. Stebbins. Dr. Benjamin Fagnant, Dr. O. H. Pease, Dr. John M. Maloney, Dr. W. H. A. Young, Dr. E. K. Parker, Dr. John Dale, Dr. Charles P. Kennedy and Dr. James R. Brown. Nor should the splendid professional service to the community by women physicians like Dr. Catherine Kennedy, Dr. Phoebe Sprague and Dr. Clara J. Sweet be forgotten in this necessarily incomplete review.

Springfield Hospital—At the time the "City Hospital," (later

"Springfield Hospital") was incorporated, December, 1883, its backing represented the foremost citizens at that time. The list included Rev. Dr. J. C. Brooks, Rev. Dr. David Allen Reed, Henry M. Phillips, Henry S. Hyde, William Merrick, James A. Rumrill, Dorcas Chapin, Noyes W. Fisk, Henry A. Gould, Lizzie D. Nichols, Lucinda O. Howard, Iranna L. Pomeroy, Charles Marsh and C. H. Southworth. The "City" Hospital had been established in 1869. The wills of two incorporators, Dorcas Chapin and William Merrick, left large sums which added to a popular subscription of $28,444, all in 1887, led to the purchase of the Hernando Fuller Farm in Chestnut street, where the present hospital was established and dedicated, 1889. In April, 1903, it was voted that all regular physicians or surgeons licensed to practice in Massachusetts should be permitted to treat their own patients in the private rooms of the institution, with free use also of the operating rooms. The Nurses' Home was established in 1906; and the Dr. Frederick Wilcox Chapin Memorial hospital branch was established in 1921, the same year the Sherman D. Porter Memorial Home for Nurses was dedicated. Dr. Everett A. Bates is president and Dr. Dudley Carleton, vice-president of the present corporation, the consulting physicians being Dr. David Clark, Dr. George C. McClean, Dr. Walter H. Chapin, Dr. George D. Weston, Dr. Wallace W. Broga and Dr. Luke Corcoran. Visiting physicians are Dr. Theodore S. Bacon, Dr. Mortimer J. Stoddard, Dr. Laurence D. Chapin. Visiting surgeons are Dr. Frederick B. Sweet, Dr. Ralph H. Seelye, Dr. John M. Birnie, Dr. Ralph B. Ober, Dr. Allen G. Rice. The medical and surgical assistants are Dr. Hervey L. Smith, Dr. J. E. Overlander, Dr. Henry Ritter, Dr. J. Perry Graham, Dr. Frederick S. Hopkins, Dr. Carl A. Schillander, Dr. Frank K. Dutton, Dr. Fred S. Dexter, Dr. J. M. Gilchrist and others. Consulting specialists are Dr. George F. Dalton, Dr. Frederick E. Hopkins, Dr. Philip Kilroy, Dr. William Goodell, Dr. Samuel Segal, Dr. Harold R. Wheat, Dr. H. W. Van Allen, Dr. J. Wesley Shaw, Dr. Alexander C. Eastman, Dr. Ernest L. Davis, Dr. Frederick D. Jones, Dr. W. Bradford Adams, Dr. Ira R. Kilburn, and others. The total admissions for 1924 was 4,207. The same William Merrick, who died while still a young man, leaving nearly $100,000 to this hospital, also bequeathed to the city one of its most conspicuous beauty-spots. This is the "Merrick Park," next west of the City Library, where stands the famous St. Gaudens bronze statue of "The Puritan," the imperishable portrait of one of the founders of Springfield, Deacon Samuel Chapin.

The benefactions to this hospital in recent years of such noble Springfield women as Mrs. Harriet Smith and Mrs. Martha D. S. Ludington, have brought invaluable special departments for women and children to the institution, and have provided costly equipment of the very highest degree of efficiency.

It should be mentioned in passing that this hospital will later be greatly enriched by the benefaction of the late State Senator Luke S. Stowe, the larger part of his fortune, a sum expected to amount to several hundred thousand dollars, will eventually be available for the establishment of the memorial fund which will bear his name.

The Two Wesson Hospitals—Side by side on High Street stand two similar monuments to the public spirit enlisted in the cause of the relief of suffering humanity, both named for the donors, Daniel Baird Wesson, and his wife, Cynthia M. Wesson. The "Wesson Memorial Hospital" has for a nucleus the beautiful Wesson residence, solicited by their friend the late Dr. J. H. Carmichael, and dedicated March, 1907, to the homeopathic profession of Western Massachusetts. Mr. Wesson gave considerably in excess of a million dollars to the Springfield hospitals, the major part to the two which bear his name. The Wessons left also the income of $450,000 to be divided between the two. The Wesson Memorial was first occupied March 1, 1907. Its staff is headed by Dr. Plumb Brown, Dr. S. E. Fletcher, Dr. J. B. Comins, Dr. A. A. Starbuck, Dr. John P. Sutherland, and Dr. Frank A. Woods. Its surgeons are Dr. Robert F. Hovey, Dr. Erdix F. Smith, Dr. H. C. Cheney, Dr. Emil C. Dillenbeck, Dr. J. E. Briggs of Boston. Its oculist is Dr. M. W. Conrow; laryngologist, Dr. Charles Chapman; bacteriologist, Dr. R. F. Kline; proctologist, Dr. Thomas J. Putnam; roentgenologist, Dr. E. C. Gorman, and superintendant, Emma B. Josselyn.

Next west is what is now known as the Wesson Maternity Hospital, at the corner of Myrtle Street, incorporated in 1908. This has no general staff, but each patient employs her own physician. Winnifred H. Brooks is the superintendant, and the trustees include the following widely-known physicians: Dr. David Clark, Dr. E. A. Bates, Dr. George C. McClean, Dr. Plumb Brown, Dr. Richard S. Benner, Dr. Samuel F. Fletcher, Dr. Robert F. Hovey, Dr. James B. Comins.

Mercy Hospital is located on Carew Street. The president of the corporation is Bishop Thomas M. O'Leary, and its vice-president is the widely-known merchant and historical writer, Edward A. Hall.

Its treasurer is Mother Mary of Providence, and its equipment is the latest known in the science of medicine. The new 95-room St. Joseph's Home for Nurses makes a substantial addition to the three handsome buildings which have been all too inadequate for the magnificent work this hospital is doing. Its usefulness is shown in the latest figures for the year 1924; total number of cases, 4,515; surgical cases, 2,047; obstetrical (with only one death), 1,058; medical cases purely, 426; eye or ear, 115; nose or throat, 869; 954 patients required x-ray work. Dr. D. E. Keefe is the physician-in-chief emeritus, and the seniors of the general staff are Dr. S. J. Russell, Dr. Mark W. Harrington, Dr. J. M. Tracy, Dr. E. J. Sweeney, Dr. J. Gagne, Dr. J. Z. Naurison, Dr. W. S. Conway, Dr. M. I. Shea, Dr. J. H. Quinn, Dr. W. J. Dillon, Dr. P. M. Moriarty. Its senior surgeons are Dr. P. M. Lynch, Dr. S. E. Ryan, Dr. George B. Corcoran, Dr. J. P. Byrnes, Dr. R. A. Rochford, Dr. H. F. Owens, and Dr. M. J. Dillon. Its obstetricians are Dr. J. F. Rearden, Dr. J. F. McGinity, Dr. E. V. Whelan, Dr. W. S. O'Brien, Dr. A. E. Camfill. The aurists and laryngologists are Dr. Byrnes, Dr. J. F. Beauchamp, Dr. J. H. Gallagher, Dr. W. C. Leary and Dr. J. F. McKechnie.

CHAPTER IV

SPRINGFIELD

From Indian Trail to Modern Street—Some space is given to the notes, covering a long period of Springfield's history, of Heman Smith, of West Springfield (1812) throughout his long life the leading "land surveyor" (so civil engineers of old time were called) of Hampden and Hampshire counties. His writings throw an accurate and interesting light on the history of this region not possible to be elsewhere obtained. A liberal reference to his records make a strong connecting link between the Old Springfield and the New and tell of the development of highways from the earliest Indian trail of William Pynchon's time, down to "Hassekey Marsh" path, parallel to the river, still existing— the "Main Street" of today, in Springfield.

In 1770, Major Joseph Stebbins, who kept a tavern on what is now the south corner of Main and Sargeant Streets, assisted by his sons, Festus and Quartus, brought from the West-Springfield meadows a score or more of thrifty young trees, and planted them in a row in the middle of the "town street" against the Stebbins premises, which then extended from the so-called "Morgan Road," (now practically Carew Street) to "Ferry Lane," now Cypress Street. In this tree-belt, with North Main Street as its lower end, Citizen-philanthropist Nathan D. Bill, as a memorial to his father, Gurdon Bill, the publisher, now maintains a much-admired ornamental parkway, which, though necessarily narrow, is a delight to the eyes of incoming tourists from the north as well as a blessing to the business concerns "above the Arch."

To secure easy access to the river, three "lanes" were opened from the main (to this day "Main") town-street of earliest days. The northernmost one, long known as the "Upper landing," was at the "Ferry Lane," just mentioned. The ferry-boats at this point crossed to the west-bank point, early known as "Hay Place," at the foot of what is now East School Street. Here farmers deposited their hay, grain and farm-truck in transit from the cultivated west-side lands to the east-side barns. It was at this point that General George Washington, commander-in-chief, on Friday afternoon, June 30, 1775, enroute to the American Army at Cambridge, crossed the river with his fellow horsemen, Major General Charles Lee, Major

Thomas Mifflin, later president of the Continental Congress, and patriot Joseph Reed, later a Pennsylvania Congressman. This distinguished group of visitors passed along in front of the present Springfield Republican building, and down Main Street, to spend the night in the old "Parsons tavern" on Court Square. Washington Street, from Dickinson to Woodlawn in present-day Ward 7, Washington Boulevard, branching from it eastward to Long Hill, and Reed Street between State Street and Wilbraham Road in Ward 8, are at present the only highway reminders of this important historic event.

This upper ferry was the one used by travelers going to "Woronoake" and beyond. It was originally one rod wide. The lower landing, of the same width,—now called York Street,—was opened for a ferry to the meadows south of the mouth of Agawam River. The middle (Court Square) lane-landing, also one rod wide, was instituted in part for farming purposes, but chiefly for receiving boat-freight which came up the river in canoes and bateaux. It afforded a passage to the first burial-ground on the north side of the lane along the bank of the river, and also to the "training-ground" opposite,—two acres then owned by the town and afterwards used as a second burial-ground. It was called "Meeting-house Lane," because the meeting-house stood on the northerly side, two hundred feet from the "town street." The lane was later widened to forty feet; and in the hedge on the old south line, sprang up an elm tree which grew and spread itself extensively, so that a century ago it was looked upon as a very large tree, and was so represented on a map of the town made at that time. Its circumference at the smallest diameter of its trunk was twenty feet, and its height over ninety-seven feet. Its age is not known, but long ago it caused the name of the old meeting-house lane to be changed to Elm Street.

In course of time it became necessary to make a passage eastward across the "marsh." The first efforts to that end proved ineffectual; but the settlers hit upon the expedient of offering the privilege to capitalists, of constructing a "causeway," and of taking "four pence a load of any person crossing there with a team who had not joined in the enterprise." This causeway, between Main Street and State Street was two rods wide. The old foundation of 1648 was so well put in that it is there to-day. It consisted of large logs, trunks of large trees laid crosswise; and successive layers furnished a foundation for the earth-filling, which is five or six feet below the present pavement. This crossing furnished an outlet to the high land east

Photo by Woodhead

ST. GAUDENS PURITAN STATUE, SPRINGFIELD

of the town street, and was the beginning of the Boston Road, which was at first the famous "Bay Path" of history,—from Massachusetts Bay to the "western plantations." It extended up the hill, near where the most southerly of the Armory buildings now stand; and certain large trees beside them still indicate its location. The town having appropriated twenty rods for the width of the road after reaching the present Spring and School streets, and the old Bay Path as travelled being very steep, a new path was sought farther south. It turned to the right above Myrtle Street and, following the edge of the dingle south of State Street, passed through the region of "Skunk's Misery," back of the present Olivet Community House, and brought up on the plain a little west of Walnut Street. This route was discontinued long ago, and the hill graded to the present track of State Street. The Boston Road was from time to time extended to the east, and in 1822 the county made a complete survey and location into the town of Wilbraham.

After the completion of the causeway, new enterprises sprang up. A path was made from the Boston Road, near the present Maple Street, and along the brow of the highlands. It passed through property then owned by Case, Merrick, Gunn and Rumrill families, now the residence-sites for the families of the Wessons, the Wallaces, George Dwight Pratt, William H. Shuart, George M. Holbrook, Dr. Luke Corcoran, Frederick H. Harris, William C. Simons, and following closely the edge of what now ends in Crescent Hill. In early days this winding path was called the "road to Charles Brewer's," whose home stood about where the South Congregational Church now is, and nearly opposite the present beautiful Colony Club building, formerly the Daniel B. Wesson mansion. This was continued to near the Springfield cemetery's lower gate, a region known as "Thompsons' Dingle." For many years this region has been the site of the best residences in town. A century ago the road was straightened, improved and gradually lengthened with increasing needs of the population, first up beyond the brow of fashionable "Crescent Hill," and then south-easterly towards the "Water-shops" section, at Central street.

Charles Brewer brought out of the depths of Thompson's Dingle, several maple trees which he set in imposing rows by this way-side; and these gave to the old "Brewer's Hill" (sometimes "Little Hill") path, the name "Maple Street."

The road over Long Hill to Pecowsic Brook was laid out in 1754; Wilbraham Road, starting from the Boston Road at Goose Pond,

in 1769; and Plum-tree Road in the same year. Pine Street formerly included Oak Street, and was laid out in 1764. It took its name from a huge, wide-spreading white-pine tree, standing about opposite the present Charter street. It was a land-mark for years, standing in the dooryard of a man named Stevenson, who was in the habit, in hot weather, of resting himself on a couch he had constructed high up among the branches of the tree. A road leading from the Parker Street school-house easterly, passing near the small ravine known as the "Dipping-Hole," was laid out about the same time; and also a road, two rods wide, beginning at the corner of "Murphy's field," and running by marked pine-trees to a pine standing a little "north of the house where Experience Hancock lately lived." No surveyor's compass was used in Springfield until 1670; hence the absence of clear field-notes in locating roads previous to this time. One road began at "Kibbee's fence," another at a "white-birch bush," another was bounded by a white-oak bush; and other equally indefinite bounds were vaguely described.

In 1769 a road was located, taking its starting-point from Long Hill, and extending easterly; it was known simply as the X road, because of its crossing another road. It is now called Summer Avenue, a most aristocratic centre, named for the famous senator who often visited here. Hickory Street received its name in honor of Andrew Jackson, whose highly characteristic appointment of a Methodist minister he knew, the now almost-forgotten Col. John Robb, as superintendent of the United States Armory here in 1833, proved immensely popular.

St. James Avenue was opened in 1770; and the town many years after voted to call it Factory Street, because it led to the cotton-factories at Chicopee Falls, or Skipmuck. Carew Street, named in remembrance of the Carew family living at the north end of Main Street, was laid out in 1770, and called Morgan Road, because for a long time the principal house on it was the old Morgan homestead. Parker Street, running from Longmeadow line, through Sixteen Acres, to "Eli Putnam's bridge across Chicopee River" at Ludlow, was laid out in 1796, and named after Zenas Parker who assisted in the locating surveys. Mill street is the permanent reminder of one of the valley's earliest industries. It runs from the edge of Mill River, where was originally located the 17-acre saw-mill described in the 1654 deed of Anna Smith, William Pynchon's daughter, given in a page illustration in this volume. Walnut street dates back to about 1812, when Captain Ethan Allen Clary, a United States

SPRINGFIELD'S IMPOSING MUNICIPAL GROUP
(With 4,000 Seat Auditorium in One Building, Offices of City Officials and Legislative Chambers in Another, and 300 Foot High Chime-Campanile in Centre)

armorer, lived there. The street acquired its name from the very large walnut trees flourishing on the old Clary place, not far from its State street end. Warriner avenue, from Locust street eastward Ward 6, is named for the family of Col. Solomon Warriner, eighth postmaster of Springfield, a composer, a lieutenant-colonel in the army, and first conductor of the first musical society ever formed in Western Massachusetts. Ashmun street, leading southward from Central Street, is the very small twentieth-century reminder of the distinguished local orator and statesman, Hon. George Ashmun. He was born in Blandford in 1804, graduated at Yale in 1823, practiced law in Springfield for many years, was the law partner of Chief Justice Chapman, was thrice a Massachusetts member of Congress, and was chairman of the Chicago convention in 1860 which nominated Lincoln for the presidency. The old Blake house, long one of the city's most picturesque landmarks, was at the foot of "Blakes' hill"; and this family gave the name to Ward 7's "Blake street." This was the locality of mysterious happenings, which, years ago, furnished the basis of a readable story by Frederick A. Packard, a Springfield novelist. "Blakes' Woods" and "Long Hill" together, were jointly known as "Fort Hill" after the great fire. The latter point is, strictly speaking, "Indian Fort," where the St. Vincent mission house on Long Hill Street is now located; the actual "fort" of history being erroneously located on certain maps. White street was named after a well-known physician who lived near its southerly end. Allen street was named for Joel Allen whose ancient residence was long the conspicuous dwelling in that locality; and Benton street was called after the family through whose farm that street was laid out in 1789. State street was the name chosen by the selectmen for all of Boston Road, or "Old Bay Path" between Main and "Factory street" just beyond the Armory, (St. James avenue) because it was more dignified than the other, and it led toward the State House. Bliss street derived the name from the land being given for it by that family; and Howard street from the family of Rev. Bezaleel Howard. Union street received its name from the fact that it was opened by Charles Stearns and others, unitedly, across their respective lands. Wilcox street was opened by Philip and Philo F. Wilcox through their own land, and named by them. Margaret street was opened through the homstead allotted to Widow Margaret Bliss, who came from Hartford with so many children that the town, a hundred and fifty years ago, granted her a lot with extra width, reaching from the town street to the river. Her

heirs, in 1850, opened a street through the middle of it; and the surveyor gave to it her name . Loring street was opened through land once owned by Joshua Loring. Lombard street was opened across land purchased by the heirs of Justin Lombard. Stockbridge street was laid out in part through land of Elam Stockbridge, famous as one of the earliest tailors and as a woolen manufacturer. Cross street was opened by Abraham G. Tannatt through his homestead; and being narrow and uncared-for, earned its long used title, now vanished, of "Pig Alley." He finally got the selectmen to accept "Cross Street" as a substitute "Alley." "Atwater Road" and terrace were named for their crossing of the land owned by the first president of the city's street railroad, George M. Atwater. Rimmon avenue, running from Atwater Road, North Springfield, takes its name from that adopted by Mr. Atwater for his handsome homestead on the hill, "Rockrimmon;" the name of a huge sandstone ledge often seen in early times at low water in the bed of the Connecticut river opposite his place.

Emery street was laid out in 1844, by the heirs of Capt. Robert Emery, who had been the owner of the land. School street was opened by the town in 1827, from State to Union, for the purpose of access to the high-school house that the town had built on the corner of Union and the new street. Alexander street, north end, is a reminder of the successful administration as eighth mayor of Springfield of Henry Alexander, Jr., a man of large affairs; and Phillips avenue, south end, is a slight monument to the worthy work, as mayor and otherwise, of Mayor Alexander's son-in-law, Henry M. Phillips.

Spring street was laid out at the foot of the first slope from the high plain, in vicinity of the numerous springs which ooze out of the ground on that plateau. Byers street was laid out across the homestead of the Hon. James Byers, the fifth postmaster (1800-1806). Worthington street was opened by Charles Stearns across his own land, from Connecticut River to Spring street, and was named after its former owner, Col. John Worthington. Butler street was an old road without name, and in 1860 was re-surveyed and straightened, and named for James H. Butler, who contributed to the straightening. Stebbins street was named for Ithamar Stebbins, who lived near by. Armory street, laid out in 1822, leading to Chicopee from the United States Armory, was dubbed "Toddy Road," because the workmen in the Armory used to go over this road to Japhet Chapin's tavern in Chicopee. Andrew street was

COURT SQUARE, SPRINGFIELD—1880

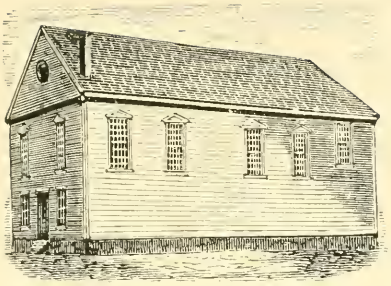
laid out in 1868, and named in honor of Hon. John A. Andrew, civil war governor of Massachusetts, who had many admirers in Springfield. George Bancroft, famous historian, who once lived on Chestnut street near the city library, has had one of the city's streets named after him by a political admirer. Calhoun street, laid out in 1860, was named for one of the strongest of the early mayors; and Philos B. Tyler, the city's second mayor, whose name was particularly well known in the south because of the cotton presses which his "American Machine-Works" turned out, is recalled by the long street bearing his name and running from Oak to Colton.

Dickinson street was an old, nameless road, re-laid and straightened in 1860, and then named after Isaac P. Dickinson, through whose land the straightening was partly made. Dwight street has its name from having been laid across the homestead of James Dwight. Edwards street, from having been laid out across the homestead of Col. Elisha Edwards; and Gardner street, from Gideon Gardner, one of the proprietors of the land through which it passes. Greenwood street was laid out by Samuel Green, who intended to call it by his own name, but was prevented from so doing because another street bore the name. Grosvenor street was laid out by Grosvenor B. Bowers, and thus named by the engineer who surveyed the property. Harrison avenue was named for President William H. Harrison. Hillman street gets its name from Seth Hillman Barnes, one of the owners of the land through which it was laid; and Magazine street, because it ran close past the old magazine of the colonial army.

Among other streets so named are: Marion street, opened in 1883, for the late Marion D. Tapley; Mattoon street, opened in 1872, for William Mattoon; Morgan street, for Albert Morgan, the seventh postmaster; Morris street, for Hon. Oliver P. Morris; Pynchon street, opened in 1842, for the Pynchon family; Sargeant street, for Horatio Sargeant. Osgood street was opened by Dunham & Sleeper, across land formerly owned by the Rev. Dr. Samuel Osgood; Ringgold street was opened by George S. Lewis, and named in memory of Major Ringgold, who was slain in the Mexican War. Sherman street was opened across land of the Tapley family, and named after Major-Gen. Sherman of the United States Army. Thompson street was formerly the northerly part of Hancock street; and Haynes & McKnight, having purchased a large tract of land bordering on the street, re-named it in honor of one of the city's most active and prominent business men, Col. James M. Thompson.

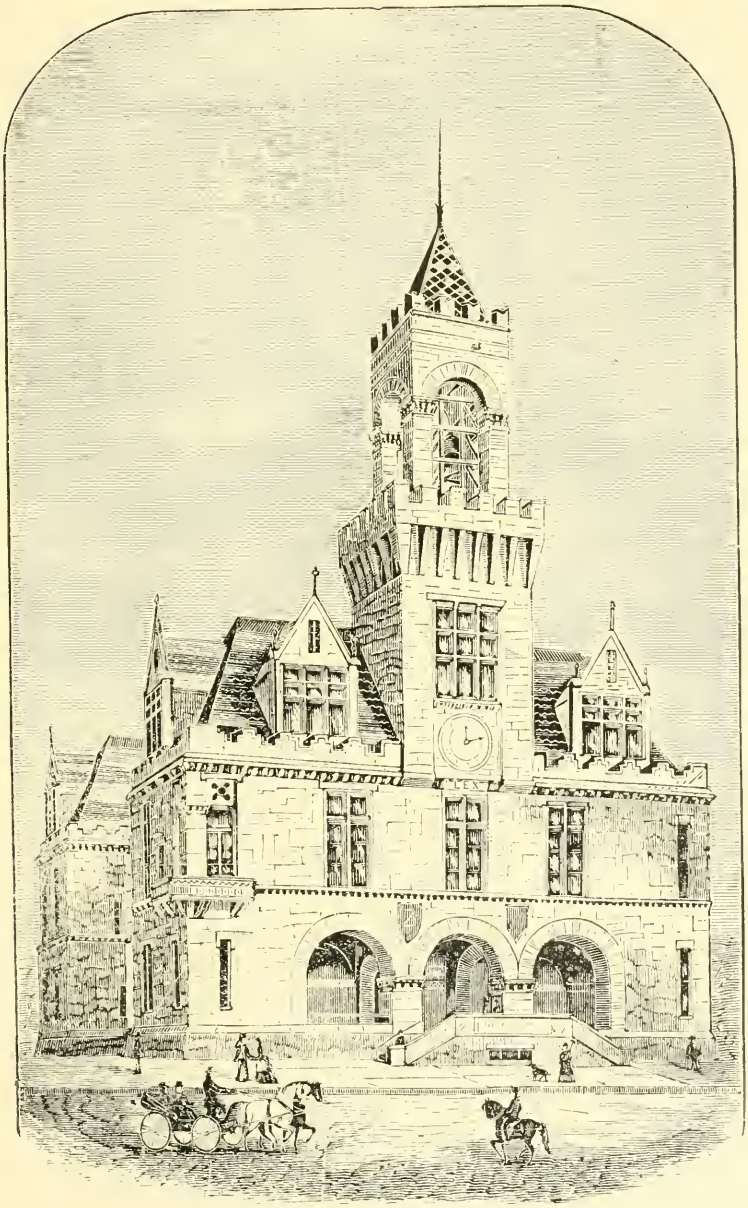
Water street was originally laid out in sections, beginning with that between the railroad and State street. It was named from its nearness to the river; and after many years its name has been changed to "Columbus avenue" because of its nearness to the Italian quarter. Court street, associated from the year 1822 with the community's legal side, was called so because it marked the north side of Court Square. Almost at its extreme western end the Springfield Police Court room upholds the long-standing tradition. Everett street, first north of Linden, was named for the famous orator, Edward Everett, whose name, during his speaking and lyceum tours, was many times on the register of the old Massasoit house. "North Church Alley," between Bridge and Worthington streets, back of the Bijou theatre, was named for the Old North church building, which stood where Carlisle Building now is, from 1849 to 1871. Winchester Square is named for Hon. Charles A. Winchester, another greatly revered mayor of the city. The name of a famous Springfield contractor is easily suggested by the Ward 6's "Leyfred terrace."

Garden Brook is a contribution of springs issuing from the several slopes of the sandy plain forming the highest table-land of the city east of Main street. It formerly ran down a deep ravine which extended far into the level plain; and, reaching the marshy meadow, the channel extended across the marsh to the western edge, disposing of itself in a singular manner by an equal division of its waters, one-half going north, and in a circuitous, or serpentine manner, finding its way into the "Great River" above Round Hill. The other division, forming a channel, ran down the westerly edge of the swamp, and, constituting the easterly line of the "town street," found its outlet in the Connecticut, just above the mouth of Mill River, two and a half miles below the outlet of the northern branch. This division took place near the east line of Main street, at its junction with Worthington street, and still continues although the bed of each branch has been considerably lowered, of late years, for the purpose of drainage; and the same, being known as the "Town Brook," performs duty as a common sewer. Sixty years ago this rivulet of clean water, running in the little channel by the side of Main street, was used for domestic purposes; and the little belt of hard land between it and the marsh afforded room for an occasional store or other building; and by crossing the stream on a plank, and climbing up a flight of a half-dozen steps, or stairs, the flooring of the one-story buildings was on tall posts.



FIRST COURT-HOUSE, BUILT 1722.

SECOND COURT-HOUSE, BUILT 1821.



HAMPDEN COUNTY COURT-HOUSE, ERECTED 1874.

Town Brook—The waters of Garden brook after entering the Wet Meadow pursued partly a southerly and partly a northerly course, entering the Connecticut in the vicinity of York street and by Three Corner Meadow brook. How well defined originally was either stream in its course through the meadow the evidence is not sufficient to show. An early record speaks of "the ditch" on the east side of the Main street. Perhaps it is not remarkable that in so level a tract as the Wet Meadow the flow should be both north and south. One of the old city engineers describes the brook in King's Handbook, P. 71. The following is from an unpublished letter of Annie Brown Adams, daughter of John Brown, the abolitionist, dated May 19, 1908: "When we moved to Springfield we boarded at first for a few days at the Massasoit House; then went to live in a new house that was situated on the right hand side of Franklin street on the left bank of Town's Brook, a small stream that had a culvert bridge, the width of the street, across it. Father rented the house and it was a good one. I cannot remember any houses between there and the foot of Armory Hill which was in plain sight. A man named Green owned some vacant lots just across the stream on the opposite side of the street. I remember seeing him drive a poor man off them who had a load of wood on his back and was going across that way to his home in the evening after his work was done, as it was a shorter way to go. I was very indignant and told father. He said that "Mr. Green had a legal right to order the man not to cross his lot, but it was not kind to do so."

Churches—While the early church and civil history of Springfield are interwoven and treated as a whole elsewhere in this volume, it may be briefly stated that the four Congregational churches were organized in the following manner:

It is believed (no positive records) that the first church of Springfield was organized in 1637 by Rev. George Moxon, who remained pastor for fifteen years, then accompanied Mr. Pynchon to England and never returned. For seven years the church was without a pastor and then came Rev. Peletiah Glover who continued pastor from 1659 to his death in 1692. The next pastor was Daniel Brewer who served thirty-seven years, after which came Rev. Robert Breck who was pastor forty-eight years. The next was Rev. Howard for twenty-four years; Rev. Osgood, forty-five years; Rev. H. M. Parsons, sixteen years; Rev. Reed, seven years; Rev. Edward Terhune,

five years; Rev. Michael Burnham, nine years; Rev. Frank L. Goodspeed, fourteen years and the present pastor Dr. Neil McPherson, since 1910.

The Second Society of the First Congregational church parish of Springfield was set off by the Legislature in 1818. While the founders of this church did not formally declare themselves to be of the Unitarian faith, yet they leaned in that direction strongly. The second church was that in Chicopee street and the third was "Church of Unity." The Fourth church, after twenty years, was styled legally, Olivet Church. They erected a building in 1834 with two towers on it.

The North church at Salem and Elliott streets, was formed in 1846. Their first pastor was Rev. Raymond H. Seeley who came in 1849. Out of this church organization came Memorial Church on North Main street in 1865. One of the great preachers who was pastor of this church—the North Congregational—was Washington Gladden, D. D., later of Columbus, Ohio. The first building of this society was built in 1849 and the present one in 1873.

South Congregational church, an off-shoot of the old First Church was organized in 1842; built an edifice in 1843 costing $8,100. The present church was dedicated in 1874 and cost $145,000—one of best in New England. It stands at the corner of Maple and High streets. Union Street and Long Hill churches were off-shoots from this church.

Methodism—Sanford Street Methodist Episcopal Church was founded in 1849 with Rev. Leonard Collins as the first pastor. In 1864 this church was reorganized as Congregational, with the pastor Rev. W. W. Mallory. This is rather an exceptional feature in Methodism, as this denomination usually does not yield the field to another sect but continues on, even if with small membership. But this was only an exceptional incident in the church history. Methodism, really had its start in Springfield as early as 1791 when Bishop Asbury visited the town, preaching the first sermon here July 15, that year. Between 1791 and 1797 the first class was formed. Preaching services were held in the houses of Mr. Sykes and Deacon John Ashley. The first class had a membership of fifteen. This society was weak, however, for many years. In 1815 it was reorganized by Rev. William Marsh. Springfield became a separate station in 1819. The services were at first held in the "water-shops" and in the Armory chapel on the "Hill." The old school house was also used until it was closed against the denomination by the school

board. The pastor also taught school in the old block-house on the Armory grounds. In 1820 the church had a membership of seventy-seven. During 1820 a chapel was built at the "water-shops," later styled Asbury Chapel. This was the sixteenth Methodist church erected in all Massachusetts. In 1835 the church had increased so that a second church organization was demanded and was obtained. In the matter of temperance societies and abolition of slavery, this church—the Methodist Episcopal—were in the van guard and fought until Prohibition was an accomplished fact, in the adoption of the Eighteenth Constitutional Amendment.

In 1844 a new church was organized (now known as Trinity) and a good edifice erected on Pynchon street and the Asbury Chapel membership was transferred to the new organization. In 1856, however, preaching was resumed at Asbury Chapel. In 1866 a new edifice was built on Florence street, the same being dedicated by Bishop Simpson, and then the name Asbury Chapel was dropped and the organization called "Florence Street Methodist Episcopal Church."

What is now State Street Methodist Episcopal church, formerly Union street church, separated from Asbury Chapel church in 1835 and in 1871 commenced to erect a new edifice on State street. It was finished in 1873. It seated 1,000 and cost $70,000.

Trinity Methodist Episcopal church, organized as Pynchon Street Church in 1844, had for its charter members about forty persons. The earlier services were held in the Worthington street grove. The Pynchon street church was dedicated in March, 1845. In 1869 the society built a new church on Bridge street. In 1880 the church had a membership of almost 500. The present fine edifice is located on Oakland street and the membership is very large.

Grace Methodist Episcopal church was organized in 1867, with twenty-nine members. They built on Main and Winthrop streets. The church cost $70,000. Its tower is 182 feet high. Bishop Bowman dedicated the property in January, 1875. Originally, this was styled the Central Methodist Church, but upon building the last named edifice it was changed to Grace.

The Union American Methodist Episcopal church (colored) was organized in 1865. The first pastor was Rev. George Bailey.

Episcopal Churches—The first Episcopal services in Springfield were held in 1817 by Rev. Titus Strong, of Greenfield. Rooms were obtained in the U. S. Armory for chapel uses. There services were only occasionally held up to 1821. In February that year, Rev.

Edward Rutledge became minister of the parish. The church was organized that year, with Colonel Roswell Lee and Dr. John Stone being elected wardens. In 1838 a reorganization of the society took place, and it was given the name of Christ Church. A new church was provided in 1840. Rev. Henry W. Lee was first pastor and later made bishop in Iowa. A new building was completed in 1876, costing $75,100. Its location is Chestnut near State street and is still one of the finest church properties in New England.

The Baptist Churches—With nineteen persons this church was organized in 1819 and named the "First Baptist Church." Meetings were held in private houses until 1821, when a small edifice was erected on Central street, east of Pine. In 1832 the society increased to fifty members; a new edifice was erected on Maple and Mulberry streets. In 1846 another edifice was built on Main street and Harrison avenue.

State Street Baptist church was formed in 1864, services being held in Union Hall until the fine edifice was completed in July, 1866.

Pilgrim Baptist church was formed in 1872 and the old South church, on Bliss street was occupied by them at first.

St. Paul's Universalist Church—The Universalist church in this city dates back to 1827, when services were held in the old Armory Chapel, which was also at that date used by the Episcopal people. Later they worshipped in Military Hall until 1844, when their new building was erected in 1869. Their present church property on State and Spring streets, is one of the most valuable edifices in Springfield.

Catholic Churches—The first service of this denomination in Springfield was in Military Hall about 1846 and in 1847 the Baptist Church building, corner Maple and Mulberry streets, was bought and removed to East Main, where after being refitted, was dedicated in April of the same year. That church was called St. Benedict's and its first pastor was Rev. G. T. Riorden. But soon it was found a larger church home must be secured and a lot was purchased on the corner of State and Elliott streets. The edifice there erected was dedicated September 29, 1866, as St. Michael's Cathedral, and was then known as one of Massachusetts finest Roman Catholic church edifices. In 1879 this congregation numbered over six thousand souls.

The Chapel of the Sacred Heart was founded in 1874, as an offshoot from St. Michaels. It located on Everett street.

St. Joseph's Church (French Catholic) on Howard street, near

SPRINGFIELD MASS.
CITY LIBRARY.
COURT HOUSE.
E.H. EVERTS, PUB.R, PHILA.
DRAWN BY P.F. GOIST

1878

Water, had seven hundred communicants forty-five years ago.

The Second Advent Society was formed in this city about 1860 with J. G. Adams as pastor; it worshipped in Central Hall many years.

The Swedenborgian (New Jerusalem Church) was founded here in 1853 and was supported by voluntary offerings. It never grew to be a large society.

Spiritualists—What was styled the Free Religious Society of Spiritualists, organized in the seventies, had in 1880 one hundred members, but no building had been erected.

Present-day churches of Springfield—From general and church directories published for 1925, the following are named as the present churches in the city of Springfield:

First Congregational, Court square; South Congregational, Maple and High streets; North Congregational, Salem street; Hope Congregational, State and Winchester; St. John's Congregational (colored), Union and Hancock; Park Congregational, St. James avenue; Emanuel Congregational, White and Orange streets; Evangelical Congregational church, Berkshire and Myrtle streets; Faith Church, Ft. Pleasant and Sumner avenue; Swedish Evangelical Mission church, John street.

Baptist Churches—Auburndale Baptist, 710 White street; First Baptist, State and Stebbins streets; Park Memorial Baptist church, Forest and Garfield; Swedish Baptist, 76 Oak street; Chase Memorial Baptist, Dresden street; Bethany Baptist (colored), Eastern avenue; Third Baptist (colored) William street.

Christian Science—First Church of Christ, Scientist, corner State and Orleans.

Disciples—Church of Christ, Dickinson street; Faith Tabernacle, 343 Bray street.

Episcopal Church—Church of Christ, Chestnut and State; All Saints, Oakland street; St. Peter's, 45 Buckingham street.

Greek Catholic—Holy Trinity Orthodox Greek, 147 Carew street; St. George, Orthodox Greek, 63 Patton street; Russian Orthodox, 118 Carew street.

Jewish—Congregation Beth Israel, Gray's avenue; Congregation B'nai Jacob, 100 Congress street; Congregation Beth El, Port Pleasant avenue; Congregation Kodimah, Oakland and Sumner streets; Congregation of Israel, 1321 North street; Congregation Kesser, 329 Chestnut street; Congregation Tiferes Israel, North Main and Chestnut streets.

Lutheran Churches—German Evangelical Lutheran Trinity church, King and Walnut streets; Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Bethesda church, King and Merrick streets.

Methodist Churches—Free Methodist church, Colman street; Asbury First Methodist, 140 Florence street; Trinity Methodist Episcopal, 31 Oakland street; First Swedish Methodist Episcopal, 57 Bay street; St. James Methodist Episcopal, North Main and Dover streets; Wesley Methodist Episcopal, 741 State street; Liberty Methodist Episcopal, Liberty and Carew streets; African Methodist Episcopal, 37 Loring street; A. M. Zion church, 30 Vine street.

Roman Catholic Churches—St. Michael's Cathedral, State and Elliott streets; St. Matthew's Church, Pine street; Church of the Holy Family, King street; Church of the Holy Name, Alderman and Bernedo streets; Church of Sacred Heart, Chestnut and Everett; Our Lady of Hope, Armory, corner Grove; Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, 119 William street; Our Lady of the Rosary (Polish), Franklin and Underwood; St. Thomas Aquinas (French), Waverly street; St. Joseph's (French) Catholic, Howard street; St. Peter and St. Paul Roman Catholic (Syrian), Liberty street; St. Aloysius (French), 215 Main street.

Second Advent—Advent Christian Church, 145 Bay street; Seventh Day Advent church, Central and Beech streets.

Spiritualist—The only regular society of this faith is located at No. 31 Bliss street.

Union Evangelical—Memorial church of this faith is at Round Hill and Main streets; Union Church at Pershing Terrace.

Unitarian—Church of Unity, 209 State street.

Universalist—St. Paul's First Universalist Church, State and Spring streets; Second Universalist Society.

Other churches include the Penticostal, the Community Church, Rushville Gospel Mission, St. Mark's Church (colored), Auburn.

Educational Institutions—American International College—This highly successful and rather unique educational institution was founded at Lowell, Massachusetts, by Rev. C. E. Amaron, in 1885, and was then styled the French-Protestant College of Lowell, Massachusetts. In 1888 it was moved to Springfield, and in 1894 on June 28, it was given the name of the French-American College, but again July 13, 1905, it was changed to its present title—"The American International College."

NEW TRINITY METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, FOREST PARK, SPRINGFIELD, NOW (1925) UNDER CONSTRUCTION ON SUMNER AVENUE

Owen Street Hall was built in 1888; Amaron House was erected in 1890; the Gymnasium Hall in 1893; Lee Hall, 1916; Woman's Hall built in 1899. As early as 1920 this college had students from all portions of the civilized world, including representatives from thirty-one countries. In 1900 this school had students as follows: French-Canadian and Swiss, 40; Italian, 17; Armenians, 11; Greeks, 5; Porto Rico, one; Japan, one; Germany, one; English, one; American, six; total Protestant, seventy-seven and Roman Catholic, seven. In 1890 Massachusetts had 300,000 French-Canadian citizens.

This is the only college of its nature in the world. Its object is to take young men who cannot afford to pay large sums required by some of the American colleges, especially those coming from the Church of Rome, and give them an education, not only in college branches, but also teach them the Protestant religion and fit them for evangelical work, among their own people—the French—who have flocked hither in great numbers in the last forty years. Religion and the Bible are thoroughly taught here, and both Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations are maintained in the College. The original campus covered nearly five acres of ground in the Highlands. The departments are the College, the Academic and the Introductory.

This college has advertised Springfield as no other single factor could in many foreign nations and great good has been the result.

In 1925 the following trustees terms expire: Ralph Cobleigh, Boston; Raymond A. Jacobs, Longmeadow; Henry R. Johnson, Springfield; Rev. John H. McGann, Springfield; Charles F. Warner, Springfield; and Henry L. Bowles, Springfield. The president is Chester Stowe McGowen.

International Young Men's Christian Association College—This institution was founded by Rev. David Allen Reed in connection with the School of Christian Workers. In 1890 it became an independent school and in 1891 was established in its present home on the shores of Massasoit Lake, where thirty acres are at their service, as well as the right of boating, etc., over two and-one-half miles of lake surface, where bathing and boating have come to be very popular. The first building was erected in 1894; numerous other structures have since been erected. In 1905 it was estimated the value of the premises was $150,000. Graduates in both departments —secretaryship and physical training—have gone forth from this school to all parts of the globe. A library of ten thousand books is of vast help to the young men. Laboratories are also provided

for practical experimentation. As a factor that makes for vigorous manhood, the International College is winning general recognition and the generous support of men of means. Its location at Springfield is an advantage to the school and a credit to the city.

Public Schools—In a memorandum made here in 1641, the Court ordered "To see that all children be taught to read and learn the 'cattechisme,' to place forth unruly children and servants, to take account of their sittings, to see schools erected and maintained."

Another record shows that the town hired William Maddison as a schoolmaster in May, 1677, he to receive three pence per week for each one he might teach to read English. Another pioneer teacher was John Richards who taught from 1683 for many years. Early residents of Springfield believed thoroughly in compulsory education. Heavy fines were imposed for not sending children between five and ten years old.

In 1716 the town was divided into six school districts. The money raised that year was eighty-two pounds Sterling. In 1812 an academy for both sexes was opened near the First church on Elm street. In continued until 1824. In 1829 a private school of high order, for young ladies, was opened on Maple street, between Union and High streets. It was conducted as the "English and Classical Institute" many years. Springfield was the first place in Massachusetts to employ a superintendent of schools, beginning in 1840 with S. S. Green. The public school system now is second to none in the United States, and its schoolhouses are modern. The Catholic Parochial schools are also splendid examples of educational institutions.

The present number of pupils in Springfield public schools is 24,559; number of teachers employed, 910; current expense for education in 1924 was $2,286,540.

The subjoined is a list of the public schools in 1924-25: Central High, District, whole, city, High School of Commerce, Technical High, Vocational, Continuation, Acushnet avenue, Alden street, Armory street Elementary, Barrows Elementary, Boston Road Elementary, Brightwood, Buckingham Junior High, Carew street Elementary, Central street Junior, Charles street Elementary, Chestnut street Junior High, Dry Bridge Ungraded, Eastern avenue Elementary, East Forest Park Portable, East Springfield Elementary, East Union Street Elementary, Five Mile Pond Elementary, Forest Park Junior High, Glenwood Elementary, Homer street

CATHEDRAL, STATE STREET, SPRINGFIELD

Elementary, Hooker Elementary, Howard street Elementary, Indian Orchard Elementary, Jefferson avenue Elementary, Kensington avenue Elementary, Liberty Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, Myrtle street Junior High, Rushville Portable, School street Elementary, State street Junior High, Strickland Elementary, Sumner avenue Elementary, Tapley Elementary, Washington Elementary, White street Elementary, William street Elementary, Washington street Elementary.

The 1925 School Board is as follows: Fordis C. Parker, mayor chairman *ex-officio*; At large, Luther Anderson; Ward 1, Frederick A. Bassette; Ward 2, Timothy J. Collins; Ward 3, Chester T. Neal; Ward 4, Mrs. Jeanne J. Starr; Ward 5, Charles H. Angell; Ward 6, Franklin A. Latimer; Ward 7, Herbert R. Wolcott; Ward 8, Chester S. McGown.

The secretary is Edwina A. Miller; superintendent of schools, Zenas E. Scott; chief clerk, Fred L. Ward.

Philanthropic Organizations—The vast amount of relief given to the poverty stricken through the government of the city, is managed by a board of five overseers of the poor, including the mayor of the city. Offices are maintained in the city buildings, with an agent in charge who is responsible for the administration of the city farm and alms-house, with its well arranged and managed hospital on upper State street.

The oldest and largest of the hospitals is the Springfield Hospital, opened at its present site—Chestnut and Springfield streets—in 1888. From 1879 a hospital was run by the city in a wooden dwelling house on grounds of the present American International College. The endowment of the hospital consists chiefly of funds left by Mrs. Dorcas Chapin and William Merrick.

Mercy Hospital is conducted by the Sisters of the Roman Catholic church diocese, where many patients are annually cared for.

The Hampden Homeopathic Hospital was incorporated in 1900 to receive patients of all creeds. It was given a dwelling at 132 High street by Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Wesson on condition that $10,000 be raised toward its equipment. Mr. Wesson built one of the finest hospitals in the State; it is known as the Cynthia Wesson Hospital.

The oldest organized chartered association in Springfield is the corporation of the Home for Friendless Women and Children, which dates from 1865. It was organized to work for the reform of fallen women, the relief of the needy and the care of destitute

children. At first it was located on Union street, but in 1871 a building for children was provided on Buckingham street. In 1897 the Home for Women moved to No. 136 William street. The incorporation and management of the institution is composed entirely of women.

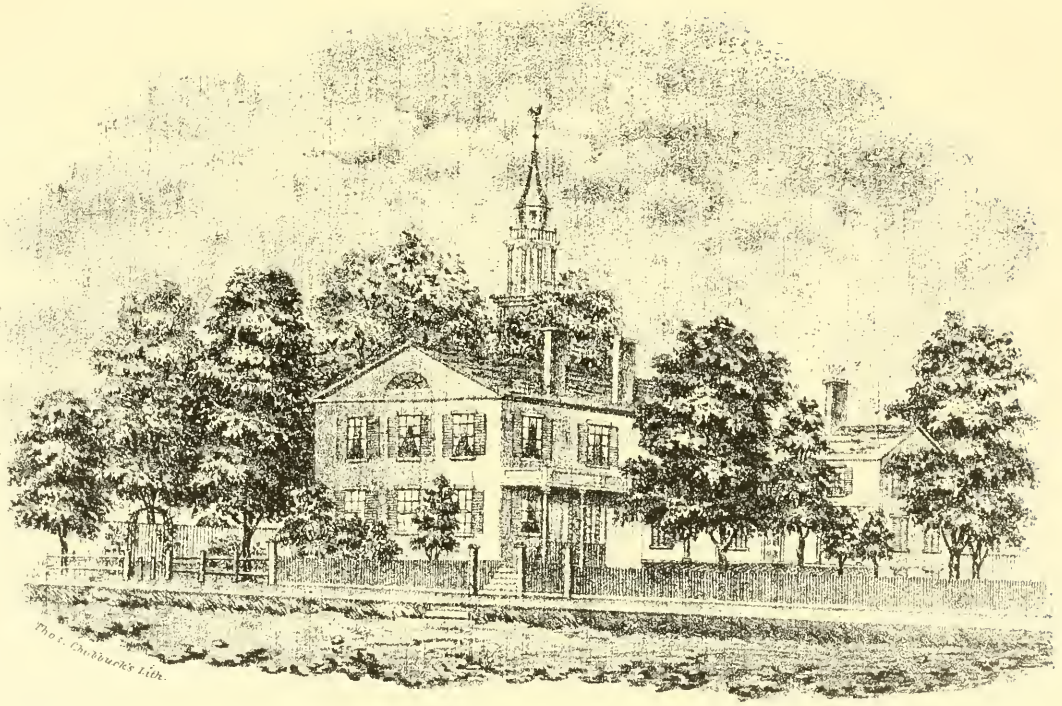
The Union Relief Association was formed in 1876 through the efforts of Rev. Washington Gladden, D. D., that great Congregational minister, while he was yet pastor of North Congregational church, Springfield. He was associated in this noble work by the senior Bowles, of the "Springfield Republican."

The Springfield Home for Aged Women opened in 1886, and holds a high place in the esteem of all good citizens of the community. For a number of years the Home was situated on Main street, near William street, but later was removed to the corner of Chestnut and Carew streets.

The City Library Association—The first attempt at having a library in Springfield was one hundred and twenty-nine years ago, or in 1796, when the Springfield Library Company was established and had three hundred and twenty books only for the exclusive use of the "proprietors" or share holders. These volumes were classed as shown by a catalog which has been carefully preserved down the years: Divinity and Ethics, sixty volumes; History and Biography with Travels, one hundred and fourteen; Poetry, twenty-eight; Novels, thirty-one; Miscellaneous, eighty-seven. Of these books only seventeen remained a few years ago, the others having been read until worn out, practically speaking.

The second library here was the "Franklin Library," which was also of the association style, but composed largely of the working men of the U. S. Armory. It was organized in the early forties and in 1844 turned over to the Young Men's Institute. But before that, in 1824, the Mechanics Association known as the "Hampden" was formed and soon took the name of "Apprentices' Library" which existed until 1849, then was taken over by the Young Men's Institute. The latter was founded in 1843. In 1854 the Young Men's Literary Association organized a library. These two societies had a total of fifteen hundred books accessible only to its members.

In 1857 the City Library Association was organized, November 27th. The two Young Men's associations donated their books to the new association and in 1859 the library contents was moved to the City Hall. During that year $8,000 was raised by subscription



ENGLISH AND CLASSICAL SCHOOL, COURT STREET SPRINGFIELD MASS

and held for the benefit of the association. In 1861 Rev. William Rice was elected librarian and held the office until his death in 1897; he was also clerk at the same period. In 1864 a new organization was effected with John L. King as president; William Rice, clerk and librarian. Very soon George Bliss donated the association $10,000, as well as the land where the present beautiful library stands. The library canvass in 1865 resulted in securing $70,000 and in 1871 a building was completed at a cost of $100,000—grounds and all were reported valued at $185,000.

In 1885 the library was declared "free to all the people" and has been so ever since. The Art Building was finished in 1895 and in 1902 Hillis C. Wellman was chosen librarian.

The next great change in library history in Springfield was in 1906-07, when the iron-master, Andrew Carnegie, generously contributed $150,000 (the grounds were the city's) for the erection of the present model library. The old library had to be removed and in 1912 it was taken away to make room for the new structure. Bids were advertised for the new library on Chestnut and State street, now the pride of the community. The date of sending out these bids was 1907 but there were some necessary delays so that the building was not completed until 1912-13.

There are now branch libraries at Memorial Square, Forest Park, Indian Orchard and the Hospital.

The Art Museum was given to the city by George Walter Vincent Smith and wife—its value is stated at more than one million dollars. This bequest was made in 1914.

The present library has 306,592 volumes in its stacks. Total circulation of books in 1924 was 1,257,000; phonographic records circulated, 7,617. The total maintenance of the main library and branches cost the city last year ninety cents for each inhabitant, only half the price of an ordinary book one might purchase at the book store.

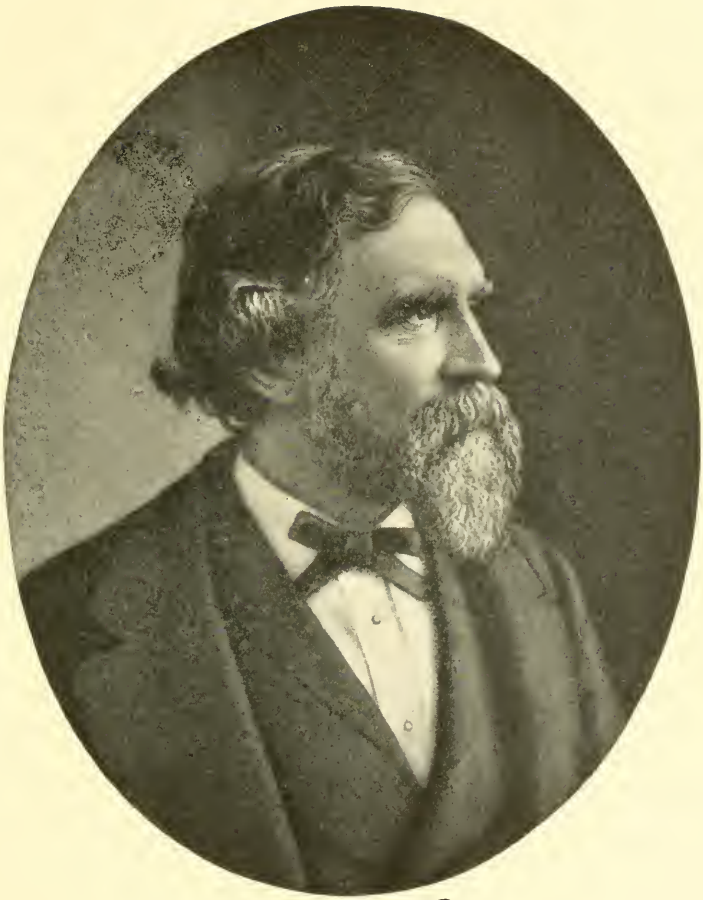
Since the reorganization of the Library Association in 1865 these have been presidents: John L. King, 1864-72; Daniel L. Harris, 1873-79; E. W. Bond, 1880-1918; James A. Rumrill, 1892-01; John Olmsted, 1901-04; Nathan D. Bill, 1904 to present date.

The 1924-25 officers are: president—Nathan D. Bill; vice-president—Robert O. Morris; treasurer—Henry H. Bowman; assistant treasurer—Henry M. Morgan; clerk—Hiller C. Wellman, who is also the librarian.

The Connecticut Valley Historical Society—This society was organized on April 21, 1876, and a charter was obtained from the Secretary of State May 9th, of the same year. The first officers of the society were as follows: Judge Henry Morris, president; Judge A. L. Soule, vice-president; Hon. William L. Smith, vice-president; Samuel Bowles, vice-president; clerk and treasurer, Rev. William Rice, D. D.; Executive committee—Rev. S. G. Buckingham, D. D., Rev. E. A. Reed, Homer Merriam, Joseph C. Pynchon, Henry S. Lee and Charles Marsh.

The society commenced operations with only eleven members but within a few years grew to embrace a large number of prominent men of the great valley for which it was named. Annual meetings have been kept up from the commencement to now. Many historical manuscripts and collections of rare old relics are in possession of the society, which, in the autumn of 1923, was merged with the City Library Association. The Historical Society reserves its corporate identity, with representatives of the Library directors on its governing board, and will continue in its activities; while its valuable collection, which for lack of quarters had been widely scattered, is now deposited with the Library Association. This union strengthens both societies. It is hoped in time that a historical museum will be added to the buildings of the Library Group.

Springfield Newspapers—The first newspaper published in Hampden County was the "Massachusetts Gazette," or the "General Advertiser," in Springfield, in May, 1782. The proprietors of this pioneer paper were Babcock & Haswell. In 1784 the firm dissolved and both partners sought other fields. The office passed into the hands of Brooks & Russell, January 1, 1785, the name being changed to the "Hampshire Herald and Weekly Advertiser." Mr. Brooks withdrew from the firm and in August, 1786, the paper was controlled by a new company, Stebbins & Russell. This newspaper was permanently discontinued January, 1787. Two months later, the "Hampshire Chronicle" was commenced by John Russell. This paper was located on Ferry street. Like all papers in that early period, it was run from a crude hand-press outfit. The proprietor was a good scholar and also a mechanic, as well as an all-round man in the community in which he lived and was looked up to. A year later this paper passed to Weld & Thomas. The office stood where now stands the Chicopee Bank, at the southeast corner of Court Square. In December, 1790, it was learned that Mr. Weld



Samuel Bowles.

was sole proprietor of the property and two years later he changed the name to the "Hampshire and Berkshire County Chronicle." In 1793 the name of Edward Gray appeared as publisher. The same year the "Federal Spy" was established by James R. Hutchins and this new venture drove the "Chronicle" from the field in a short time.

Soon John Worthington Hooker got control of the "Federal Spy" and had as a partner Francis Stebbins. They dissolved in May, 1796, and Stebbins continued until 1799 and sold to Timothy Ashley. In 1801 Henry Brewer was admitted as a partner and two years later became sole proprietor and continued until 1806, when he sold to Thomas Dickman, who at once changed the name from the "Federal Spy" to the "Hampshire Federalist." In 1819 he sold to Frederick A. Packard, a lawyer from Boston and soon he had associated with him Abraham G. Tannatt, the name of the paper being the "Hampden Federalist." In 1818 the "Hampden Patriot" was established and appeared as a rival to the "Federalist," but in two years they sold to the last named. The "Federalist" was changed to the "Hampden Journal." Mr. Packard in 1835 became sole owner of the two papers.

The "Springfield Republican" was established September 8, 1824, by Samuel Bowles, who came from Hartford and his paper proved a strong rival of the above named journal which finally sold out to Mr. Bowles who merged the two subscription lists, the title being then, "Republican and Journal."

The "Springfield Gazette," established in 1831, with William Hyde as its editor, was a Whig organ which after many changes in management finally sold to the "Springfield Republican."

The "Hampden Intelligencer," commenced in August, 1831 by J. B. Clapp, continued a year as an anti-Masonic organ, then died a natural death. Another paper was "The Washingtonian," a temperance paper started by Mr. Tannatt, above referred to, January 1, 1847, the "Bay State Weekly Courier" was established by Dr. J. G. Holland. After six months the proprietor now so widely known as author, editor and poet, and whose mortal remains lie in the Springfield cemetery, joined the staff of the "Springfield Republican."

In 1847 the "Springfield Sentinel" was started as both weekly and semi-weekly. Later it was honorably discontinued.

The "Daily Republican," the first daily paper, not only in the city of Springfield, but in the State, outside of Boston, was started

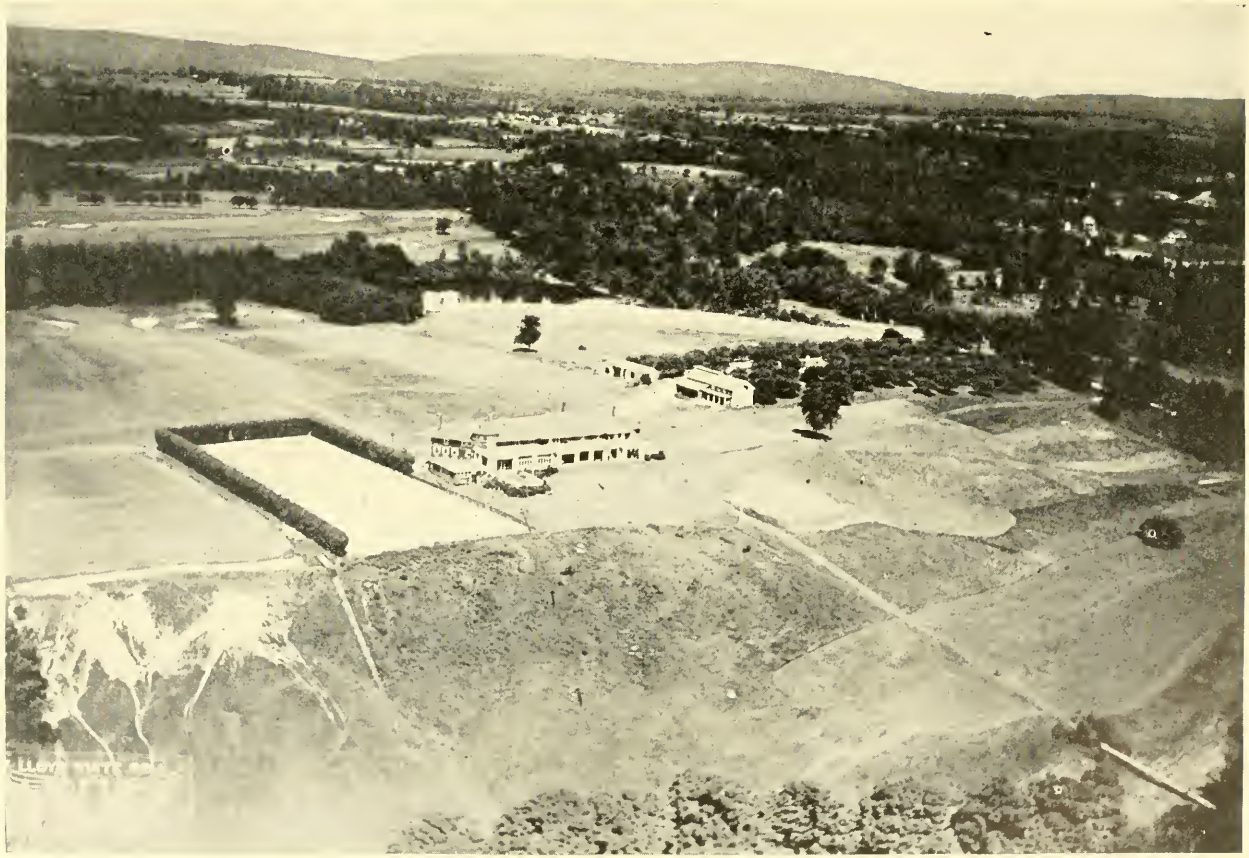
in April, 1844. Its first year and a half it was issued as an evening paper, but then changed to a morning paper in 1845.

In April, 1846, the "Evening Gazette" started as a rival of the "Republican," but two years later it was absorbed by the Republican. In 1850 Samuel Bowles, Jr., became associated with his father in the ownership of the "Republican." In May, 1849, J. G. Holland became associated as one of the regular editors of the "Republican." Later, he was one of the firm of Samuel Bowles & Co. Bowles, the elder, died in September, 1851, when his interests were largely taken over by Clark W. Bryan. In February, 1855, the weekly edition was changed to a quarto form. The history of the "Springfield Republican," since the above events, is well known to most of its readers today. No paper stands higher among the great dailies and is quoted from oftener, than the "Springfield Republican," which has always been a great and dignified newspaper.

The "Springfield Union," the oldest evening paper in Western Massachusetts, was founded by Edmund Anthony, July, 1864. Its first office was situated in Pynchon Street. It appeared only as an evening paper until July, 1892, when the morning edition was established and two years later the Sunday edition appeared. In 1890 this paper was sold to the Springfield Union Publishing Company. Politically, it was always Republican. Four times it had to be given larger office quarters. It is a member of the American Associated Press and is a live, up-to-date newspaper of a high class of general, editorial and news items.

The "Daily News" was the first penny paper published in Hampden County. At first it was a tri-weekly, but soon appeared as a daily. In May 13, 1880, the word "daily" was substituted for "penny." The price, however, remained the same. Edward and Charles J. Bellamy were its publishers. It has ever been a wide-awake progressive paper. Edward Bellamy, one of the founders, became the noted Socialist writer.

Other newspapers of Springfield have included these: The "Homestead," a weekly, was an off-shoot of the old "New England Homestead," established in 1867 as a monthly, by Henry W. Burt. The Phelps Publishing Company, a corporation of note and power, established in 1880, has published the "Farm and Home," "Orange Judd Farmer" and "American Agriculturist." These publications go all over the United States and the mail business derived from their issue in Springfield is a great factor in the local postoffice.



AERIAL VIEW OF SPRINGFIELD COUNTRY CLUB

Another publication is "Good Housekeeping," a magazine of domestic science, formerly published by Clark W. Bryan Company and printed at the Phelps printing office.

The "Daily Democrat" founded in 1883, was a one cent paper but in less than three years it was discontinued.

The "Herald of Life," established in 1872, with Rev. W. N. Pile as editor was the organ of the Advent Church.

There are numerous other publications, secular and religious in Springfield, such as the "French-American Citizen," "Domestic Journal" and "World and Work."

The United States Armory—This is one of the interesting and historic institutions of Springfield. It is recorded that General George Washington passed through this place in 1789, viewed and approved of this great armory plant. It was the first ever established by the United States Government, the date being April, 1794. The buildings were located on the "Hill" and on Mill River also, the latter department is still known as the "Watershop." The making of small arms was commenced here by the government in 1795. Forty men were then employed and they produced 245 muskets the first year and for over one hundred years it has been carried on without interruption, save at the time of the armory fire in 1824. More than twenty-five different models of army muskets have been made here. The first American-made gun was the flint-lock which was used in 1822 and improved in 1840. In 1842 the flint-lock system was virtually abandoned and the percussion lock was introduced. These new models were first employed by the soldiers in the War with Mexico in 1846-47. With the outbreak of the Civil War this country was almost gunless—north and south. Hence a great increase in the armory force was made necessary. In 1864 there were 3,400 men employed and they made one thousand guns daily. In 1861 it required a month to make a thousand guns.

The United States kept pace with all improvements in fire-arms. In 1873, 1898 and in 1903 better models were made at this armory. In 1904 the daily output of guns was three hundred. Fourteen hundred men were thus employed in the gun-works. These men worked eight hours a day and the monthly pay-roll was from $75,00 to $130,000.

Prior to the Civil War the four arsenals were used solely for the storage of small arms. In 1860, under Captain George Dwight,

the middle arsenal was converted into a workshop. The main arsenal was built in 1846, by Colonel Ripley. The storage capacity was 300,000 guns—100,000 on each floor. Total storage room of all the arsenals packed to capacity is one million stand of arms.

The grounds occupied by this armory embraces seventy-four acres and is situated on the hill overlooking the city. The men "who wore the loyal Blue" from 1861 to 1865, knew full well the value of the "Springfield Rifle." It was then the best gun made in the world. The breech-loading model was brought out in 1873. During the Civil War period there were manufactured here guns as follows: 1861—14,000; 1862—102,000; 1863—217,000; 1864—277,000; 1865—196,000. The present capacity for gun-making in this plant is 24,000 per week, besides doing much repair work. During the recent World War thousands of workmen were here employed in making guns by the hundreds of thousands, all being of up-to-date models.

Only one attempt has ever been made to capture this arsenal and armory and that was during the "Shays Rebellion" in January, 1787, when Shays and his one thousand insurgents, crossed the river from West Springfield and sought to capture the place from Commander General Shepard, who had 1,100 soldiers. Shays sent word that "I propose to capture the hill and tonight I shall sleep in the barracks." One discharge from Shepard's effective artillery caused Shays to change his mind about his sleeping quarters on the night he had named!

The Springfield Young Men's Christian Association was the third organization of its kind in the United States when founded in April, 1852. Its first quarters were in a few rooms over the store at 451 Main Street. This building, which is opposite Court Square, is still standing. The first president was Judge Henry Morris.

The organization thus started so early in the history of the movement in this country was forced within a short time to disband because of the lack of outside support. In March, 1864, another effort was made to establish an association here. This second organization occupied rooms in the Old Corner Book Store building at the corner of Main and State streets, and it did some important work in co-operation with the United States Commission. The association sent as its delegate in the Army of the Potomac, Dr. J. Searle Hurlburt who was then very prominent in its affairs.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION BUILDING

After the war the association struggled on for several years being located on the third floor of the Forbes & Wallace building at the corner of Main and Vernon streets, and later on the second floor of the building at the corner of Main and Bridge streets in which Dr. C. S. Hurlburt had his office. During the financial depression of the early seventies the association was burned out and had to be again given up, and no other effort along this line was made until 1881.

The third and a successful attempt at organization was peculiar in that all of the three branch associations were established before the Central Association existed. In the fall of 1881, the International Committee started a Railroad Association with Theodore F. Judd as the first secretary. This was the first Railroad Young Men's Christian Association organized in the New England States. That same year the headquarters of the association were first secured in a small brick building in which was located the yardmasters' office near the Boston & Albany Round House in West Springfield. That year, the headquarters of the association were located in the heating plant of the Boston and Albany Railroad on Railroad Terrace and the West Springfield Association was continued as a department of the Springfield Association. When the Union Station was started the Railroad Association was moved to quarters on the third floor of the Athol Block at 227 Main Street, where it remained until 1904. In 1896 O. A. Eberhardt, the present secretary, came to this field and so increased the work of the association that the quarters became inadequate, and the present building was erected on Railroad Terrace at a cost of $21,000. In 1911 another story was added to this building, giving space for additional sleeping rooms. This association, through its lodging facilities, bath privileges, recreation facilities, etc., has rendered a far-reaching service to conductors, brakemen, engineers and firemen who run into and reside in Springfield.

The career of the West Springfield Railroad Association has been an extraordinary one. Conducted at first as a department of the Springfield Railroad Association and located in the yardmaster's office building, in 1900 it was made a separate branch, known as the West Side Railroad Branch of the Springfield Young Men's Christian Association. Later the organization was housed in a small office building with six passenger coaches connected to it. These were refurnished to meet the association's peculiar needs. The activities to such an extent that a suitable building was need-

ed, and on January 15, 1915, the present building was thrown open to the public.

On November 21, 1882 a reading room was opened in the Hope Church Chapel on the hill, and this was the start of the Armory Hill Young Men's Christian Association. On September 3, 1883, sixteen men signed a formal constitution and Rev. E. H. Byington served for the first ten months as secretary. At the end of this time the membership had grown to 256 men.

The association was incorporated in May, 1886, and room were rented in the School for Christian Workers' Building on State Street opposite Winchester Park. The secretaries from 1884 to 1887 were W. H. Haygood, J. E. Mallin, and Frank W. Pratt. In June, 1887, J. W. Cook assumed the secretaryship, and was the first man to give his whole time to the position, but in June, 1889, he resigned to become the Assistant State Secretary of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. F. W. Meyer then became secretary, and the same year Prof. R. J. Roberts was made director of the gymnasium, giving the work a great impetus. The later secretaries were James Vinson and W. A. Fairbanks who was secretary at the time it was decided to give up the hill association.

In 1884 a Central Association was successfully organized with J. Stuart Kirkham as the first president, serving for two years. R. M. Armstrong, later State Secretary, was the first secretary and it was his work which did a great deal to establish the Central Association permanently. The second and third floors of the Second National Bank Building, which stood at the corner of Main Street and Townsley Avenue were rented by the association. The top floor was used as a gymnasium and the lower one for meetings, reading rooms, etc. F. G. Lotze was the second secretary occupying the office from 1887 to 1892. On his retirement F. W. Meyer, then secretary of the Hill Association, was elected to fill the position and he served until after the new building had been occupied. Some conception of the growth of the association's influence can be gained from the fact that in 1894, 12,917 men attended the religious meetings of the Central Branch which were held in Gilmore's Opera House on Sunday afternoons.

In 1891, the Railroad, Armory Hill, and Central Associations were consolidated under the name of the Springfield Young Men's Christian Association, each holding branch relations. The greatest impetus which came to this organization was the erection of a Central Branch building at the corner of State and Dwight streets.

This building with the lot on which it stood, cost $135,000 and at the time of its erection was considered a model of association construction. This new building was dedicated March 19, 1895, and in the six days of that opening week, 10,000 people inspected the association's new quarters. The Armory Association was given up and its work continued in the Central Branch.

The Summer Camp at Norwich was started in 1896, the association renting a camp site there.

F. W. Meyer resigned in 1896, having completed four years of splendid service as general secretary. He was succeeded by Willard E. Waterbury who served for one year, and in March, 1898, William Knowles Cooper became the general secretary and for ten years labored unselfishly for the association, the church, and the city as a whole, making hundreds of staunch friends. Under his guidance the association entered upon a period of great growth and all-round development. Its membership grew from 539 to 1047, and enrollment in educational classes was increased from 81 to 254. The Boys' Department had 285 members in 1908 against 80 boys in 1898. The camp at Lake Norwich was made a feature which appealed to large numbers of boys and young men. In 1898 the association secured positions for eleven men. The Springfield Association was one of the pioneers in placing this practical work on a large and satisfactory basis, and in 1908 placed 959 men in positions and this department had won the esteem of the business men of the community.

In the fall of 1900 Mr. Cooper started a movement which has had a marvelous career, namely, the Court Square Theatre Sunday afternoon meetings for men. These meetings are now attended by an average of 3,000 persons and conducted during the season of twenty weeks. The association brings to Springfield the best there is to be secured in music and public addresses.

Mr. Cooper resigned in September, 1908, to become the general secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association of Washington, D. C. Mr. Kenneth Robbie came to the Springfield Association as financial secretary in February, 1908, and upon Mr. Cooper's resignation, Mr. Robbie was chosen to become general secretary. It was during his administration in 1913 that a campaign was run in Springfield for the present Central Branch Building located at the corner of Chestnut and Hillman streets. This building with its equipment and site cost $325,000 and was dedicated in 1916. The building is seven stories high, contains 135 dormitory rooms

and has a membership of 3,500. Mr. Robbie continued as the capable secretarial head of the Springfield Association until November, 1919, when he resigned to enter business.

On February 1, 1920, Blake A. Hoover, the present general Secretary, was called from the Bronx Branch of the New York City Association to become general secretary. In 1922 the Y. M. C. A. of Mittineague became a branch of the Springfield Association and is called the West Side Community Branch. A new building is being constructed that when completed will be worth over $300,000. A site has been purchased for a new branch to be located at the corner of State Street and Oak Grove Avenue. Student branches are operating successfully in the International Y. M. C. A. College and in the American International College. There are in all of the branches more than 6,000 members.

A large plot of ground on Chestnut Street adjacent to the present Central Branch was purchased in 1923 for the purpose of building a structure that when completed will more than double the present capacity of the Central Branch.

The organization of the Springfield Young Men's Christian Association consists of a Board of Directors for the corporation operating in Springfield and West Springfield with committees of management in the various branches. In 1925 the officers of the association are as follows: president, Colonel Benjamin A. Franklin; vice-president, C. B. Potter; treasurer, R. R. Cleeland; assistant treasurer, A. B. Sanderson; recording secretary, H. C. Hastings; general secretary, Blake A. Hoover.

The officers of the branches are as follows: Central Branch—George E. Williamson, chairman; Springfield R. R. Branch—E. T. Bray, chairman; O. A. Eberhardt, secretary; West Springfield R. R. Branch—F. A. Butler, chairman; L. E. Erickson, secretary; West Side Community Branch—E. G. Robson, chairman, Murray E. Cate, secretary.

Young Women's Christian Association—This auxiliary of the Y. M. C. A. was organized, in a way, in 1866 and became strong enough by 1883 to become an incorporated body. Its first home was on Bliss Street, but in 1909 their present spacious quarters were provided by building a three-story brick structure on Howard Street at Nos. 22 to 30. Its cost was $136,000 including the lots but today its cost would be twice this amount. The present membership of the association is 1900. They maintain a camp at

Chester, a Travelers' Aid desk at the Union railway station, and follow up many other phases of community work.

The present officers are: President—Mrs. Theodore F. Nye; first vice-president—Mrs. A. B. Morrill; second vice-president—Mrs. Harlan P. Small; corresponding secretary—Mrs. Howard P. Rainey; recording secretary—Mrs. E. H. Becraft; assistant treasurer—Mrs. Howard Bemis; treasurer—Mrs. E. H. Norton; Miss Mary L. Cady, general secretary.

In 1916 this association held the semi-centennial anniversary of its founding, which was an interesting affair, well attended.

Early Manufacturing Enterprises—Without going into details of the first saw and grist-mills of Springfield, and of its smaller shops and factories common to other New England towns, this sketch of the industries of the place will commence in the first half of the nineteenth century.

What grew to be an extensive plant was the enterprise of the Wason Manufacturing Company organized by Thomas W. and Charles Wason, natives of New Hampshire. This was expressly for the construction of railway cars. The first shop would scarcely hold one car at a time. For the Connecticut River Railroad they built the first year, six single and two double freight cars, receiving for the entire lot the sum of $4,700. Changes were made and in 1863 the Wason Manufacturing Company was organized, with Thomas W. Wason as president. New shops were demanded and on a sixteen-acre plot of ground in the north part of the city, such were constructed in 1871. As early as 1878 this company made sixty passenger cars for Egypt; also one hundred freight cars. They also built a special car for the Khedive. Mr. Wason, founder, died in 1870 and was succeeded as president, by George C. Fisk, a former bookkeeper of the concern. The present officers are: Samuel M. Curwen, president; Charles F. Johnson, vice-president and manager; R. T. Foster, superintendent; E. P. Rawle, treasurer; W. Abrahams, secretary and assistant treasurer.

The chief business of this company now is the manufacture of passenger cars for steam and electric railways, and large shipments are being made to foreign countries, especially to South America. From 150 to 600 men are employed in these works, according to the number of orders on hand.

Another important early industry was the Smith & Wesson revolver manufactory, established in 1857. The first year's business was over $150,000. In 1880 it had reached an annual business

of $800,000. In the seventies five hundred men were given employment in this revolver factory. This concern is still doing a large business.

The Hampden Watch Factory was originally the New York Watch Company, organized in 1867. After ten years the works became reorganized as the "Hampden" with Homer Foote as president. For many years it was among the best watch factories in the country. They have not been in operation for many years.

Springfield is the home of the noted "Webster's Dictionary" published by G. & C. Merriam, who came to Springfield in 1831, to open their book store and subsequently purchased the copyright of the estate of Noah Webster, author of the well-known dictionary. The general offices of this company are situated on Broadway and from this place multiplied thousands of dictionaries have gone forth to all parts of the globe, after first supplying America with its valuable work by its millions of copies, in different styles, sizes and series.

The Morgan Envelope Company, one of the pioneers in their line, was organized in 1866 and employed 200 workmen in the seventies. They made the first postal cards ever used by the Post-office Department in Washington and after 1874 the company for years made, under contract, one half of all "government envelopes" used in America.

In 1878 the American Papeterie Company was formed in Springfield. They made and put upon the market the first fancy stationery in neat boxes.

The National Needle Company was formed in 1873. It commenced with six workmen, but soon employed 110. In 1879 this plant made 6,000,000 needles, including needles for all kinds of sewing machines. This industry grew to become the largest needle factory in the world and strange to relate no traveling salesmen were employed by the company. The stock was chiefly held by Springfield men.

Prior to 1880 other industries in Springfield included the Hawkins Iron Works, established in 1846 for the purpose of making the Howe Truss Bridges. Other branches were added, making an extensive plant. The Barney & Berry skate was made in Springfield, beginning in 1864. The first year, aided by only eight men, this company produced 500 pairs of hand-made skates. Extensive works were built at the foot of Broad Street and in 1878, 80,000 pairs of skates were made by thirty-five men.

SPRINGFIELD

HOTEL WORTHY — HENDEE MANUFACTURING COMPANY — U. S. ARMORY
SPANISH WAR VETERAN'S MONUMENT AND CHURCH — MAUSOLEUM
COMMERCIAL HIGH SCHOOL — OLD DAY HOME

Another large, profitable industry in Springfield, less than half a century ago, was that of making paper collars. This was started in 1863 by D. H. Brigham & Co. Numerous buildings had to be provided, for the expansion of the paper collar business was immense for almost a quarter of a century, when the use of paper collars was no longer very great and there are few made in the world today. But fortunes were made while the fad was in vogue. The Springfield Collar Company , and others were engaged in the business, along with the pioneers just named. Men still residing here traveled as salesmen, going as far west as Chicago and St. Louis, selling nothing but paper collars.

Located at the foot of Howard Street was a large button factory doing a thriving business in buttons. This plant was in operation in the seventies and eighties, possibly later.

What is sometimes called the Springfield Paper Mills are those situated in West Springfield, of which notice has been made in the history of that corporation.

The great manufacturing enterprise carried on by the United States Government at the Armory (q. v.) of course is the earliest and one of the most extensive producing plants within Springfield. Here millions of guns have been made, as well as hundreds of military supplies used in the various wars.

Industrial Interests of 1925—No better general account of the various industrial interests in the bustling city of Springfield can be given than is furnished by the following list of manufacturing and productive establishments within its limits today, as reported by literature sent out by the Chamber of Commerce. For over a century craftsmen with old-fashioned pride in accuracy and precision of workmanship have been attracted to Springfield and become a part of the industrial life of the community. Greater Springfield will benefit by the proposed action of the National Government to develop the water-ways and hydro-electric power resources. Several hundred thousand horse-power in electrical energy in the Connecticut River will be available for industries in this city, the Queen of the Connecticut Valley. Springfield is already the second city in the State in wealth and third in population. Alphabetically, the numerous industries already established and flourishing here are these:

Abrasives, abdominal bands, Acetylene Cave Welding & Manufacturing Co. Aluminum alloys, ammeters, ammonia, aprons, by

two factories; art material, by three concerns; artificial stone factories, three in number; athletic goods, including the Spalding Brothers and Wright & Ditson Victor Co.; audio transformers, auto trailers, automatic wrapping machines, six automobile body manufactories, automatic casings and tubes, automobile lamps, seven factories making automobile parts, automobile polish, automobile radiator guards, automobile tops, by five firms; automobiles by the celebrated Rolls-Royce automobile manufacturers (English, and incorporated here in Springfield recently), also the automobile factory of Raush & Lang; four awning factories, four band-saw works, banners, barber supplies, barrels—steel and wooden, batteries, bed springs, bedding, beltings, beverages, nine plants producing soft drinks, two blank book factories, one blind factory, blue print factory, blueing, bobbins and spools, boiler grates, book-binders, five shops, bookcovers (patent), twelve box factories (wooden and paper), brass castings, five shops, brazing brick manufacturers, bronze founders, brooms, brushes, butter, two firms, button factory, cap factory, two, card-board works, three concerns, carriages, carpets, cars, casket hardware, two shops, cellulose products, cement products, chains, chairs, chemical works, five in number, children's wear, clocks, electric, clothing (men's), clothing (women's), coated papers, four firms, coffee roasting machines, two, ten candy factories, copper and brass goods, four, corsets, cotton goods—the Chicopee Mfg. Corporation and Dwight Mfg. Corporation, cotton thread, cotton waste, three firms, cotton webbing, cotton yarn, cycle chains, cylinder grinders, dictionaries, Merriman G. & C. Co., dies, seven plants, dishwashing machines, drop forgings, three works, dumbwaiters, electric cars, electric vehicles, electro-plating, elevators, three firms, emery wheels, enameling, engravers, eight firms, envelopes, four factories, extracts, four firms, ferrules, fertilizers, fiberloid sheets and toilet ware, fire arms, four plants, including the U. S. Armory, flags, fountain pens, furniture factories, three, furriers, six, gaskets, gear cutters, two, glazed papers, two factories, gold leaf, grates and grate bars, grinding machines, hack saws, three factories, hand soap, handcuffs, hardware makers, six separate factories, heating systems, eleven plants, inks, iron fence, keys, knit underwear, four factories, knitting machines, labels, lamp shades, lawn mowers, leather belting, lithographers, machine brushes, machine tools, five firms, machinery, twelve factories, magnetos, two, matches, mattresses, five plants, mirrors, two, motor truck bodies, five companies; motors, by four factories, name plates, napkins, and

GILBERT & BARKER MFG. CO. — SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

specialties by Foley Paper Co., nurseries, four, packing boxes, two firms, paper producers, thirteen in number, paper ruling machines, patent medicines, two firms, planing and moulding mills, three, play-ground apparatus, pocket books, printers' tools, regalia makers, two companies, rubber tires, the celebrated Fisk Rubber company, sash and blinds, three factories, scales, screw machine products, two, show-cases, springs, structural iron work, swords, the Ames Sword Company, tape, telescopes, tickets, tile, toilet paper, tool manufactories, fifteen shops, truck bodies, two, underwear factories, three companies, uniforms, four firms, waxed paper, weatherstrips, weaving reeds, window shades, wire cloth, wire workers, two firms, wrenches, five shops, yarns, and scores of lesser industries.

The paper industry is an immense one in Springfield and near by community. At this time the following are the corporations engaged in such line of factories: Agawam Paper Company, American Writing Paper Company, Birnie Paper Company, Foley Paper Company, Holyoke Paper & Card Company, Morgan Stationery Company, New England Card & Paper Company, Package Paper & Supply Company, the Southworth Company, Springfield Glazed Paper Company, Strathmore Paper Company, United Manufacturing Company, Worthy Paper Company.

Rolls-Royce of America, Inc., manufacturers of superior motorcars, was organized in November, 1919, and located in Springfield, the first chassis was produced here in January, 1921. This is an English concern and during the late World War the demand for Rolls-Royce aircraft engines was so great that the attention of the English Government was directed to the United States, so that in 1917, American builders were asked to contribute to Rolls-Royce production with their equipment and personnel, which they did successfully until the end of the war. It was owing to this that the company in England deemed it wise to incorporate in America. Buffalo and Cleveland were looked over as possible sites for this plant, but Springfield had the greater advantages, hence secured the industry. The fact of the Arsenal being located in Springfield, the large number of available mechanics in the community, easy access to drop forgings between Philadelphia and Worcester, rendered the inspection of material easy and the time required for transportation short.

Another point of advantage was that Springfield had better facilities for housing a large number of men, and rents were not out of reason, as was the case in many surrounding cities.

In order to better carry out the plans and necessities of such a great plant, the English organization picked out a select corps of fifty-three supervisors, for their peculiar fitness in the several departments, and brought them to Springfield. More than forty of these were married men, with more or less of a family. Their household effects were brought and were placed in their new found homes where they are permanent settlers.

From the English plant, blue-prints as well as actual samples of every part of the Rolls-Royce, in each stage of construction, were brought.

It was the original intention, following the plan of the English Company, to specialize on chassis exclusively. The demands made upon the corporation here, however, to equip the Rolls-Royce chassis with bodies led to the establishment of a coachworks division, a separate and distinct organization of specialists, for the designing, building and installation of fine automobile bodies. All of this work is produced within this new plant in Springfield. The coach work is in every way worthy of the name Rolls-Royce, "the best car in the world."

In many of the leading cities in America this corporation maintains branches for salesmen, warerooms and offices finely equipped for the correct handling of the sales end of the large business.

The Fisk Rubber Company—The growth of the Fisk Rubber Company in the course of less than thirty years is really remarkable. In 1898, the Fisk Rubber Company started in operation on its present location, the plant comprising a single building of less than an acre of floor space. The plant was that of the original Spaulding and Pepper Company, manufacturers of bicycle tires and small rubber specialties. It was taken over by Noyes M. Fisk, who, with his son, Harry G. Fisk, organized the original Fisk Rubber Company. Today, the big Fisk factory at Chicopee Falls stands as a modern industrial institution, extending over twenty-one acres of land area. In all, there are now more than thirty buildings and more than forty acres of floor space,—the largest building being 5 stories high and more than 700 feet long by over 100 feet wide.

The Fisk factory at Chicopee Falls is recognized as one of the largest and best designed tire manufacturing establishments in the world—well-lighted, well-ventilated and completely and adequately equipped to manufacture quality tires and tubes in large volume. National distribution is attained through the medium of Fisk warehouses and one hundred and fifty Fisk branch houses so located

that, to dealers throughout the country, complete service is instantly available.

The Fisk Office Building is located at Broadway, 57th Street and 8th Avenue, New York City. It is a commanding structure of twenty-six stories, comprising approximately 470,000 square feet of floor space. The executive offices of the Fisk Rubber Company occupy the 25th and 26th floors of this building.

The present executive personnel of the Fisk Rubber Company includes Mr. H. T. Dunn, president, who has been with the company since the years after its organization; Mr. E. H. Broadwell, vice-president and general manager, also connected with the company since its early organization; Mr. H. G. Fisk, vice-president and one of the original founders; Mr. R. B. McGaw, treasurer; Mr. E. M. Bogardus, comptroller, and Mr. J. D. Anderson, vice-president and factory manager in charge of all Fisk Rubber Company manufacturing plants.

The Fisk Rubber Company is the parent company of the Fisk Tire Company, Inc., and the Federal Rubber Company, with a large tire factory in Cudahy, Wisconsin. In addition to these two tire manufacturing plants, the Fisk Rubber Company is also the parent company of three cotton mills located at New Bedford, Mass., Pawtucket, R. I., and Jewett City, Conn., and known as a group, as the Ninigret Division of the Fisk Rubber Company.

The Bosch Magneto—Owing to conditions surrounding business activities, just previous to America's entrance into the World War, the good will of the Bosch Magneto Corporation was greatly effected and many customers refused to deal with them due to the fact that the business at that time was conducted by Germans. When America entered the war, the property was taken over by the Alien Property Custodian and was operated almost exclusively in the Government's interests.

In December, 1918, the property in Springfield was acquired, through public auction, by the present owners who started to restore the good will and again enter the automotive accessory field under the name of American Bosch Magneto Corporation.

The plant was originally designed to produce a maximum of 10,000 magnetos per month. Average shipments at that time were about 8,500 instruments per month. By judicious and careful planning of the mechanical layout, the new management, without enlarging their buildings, increased their manufacturing and selling organization so that during April, May, June and July of 1920, the

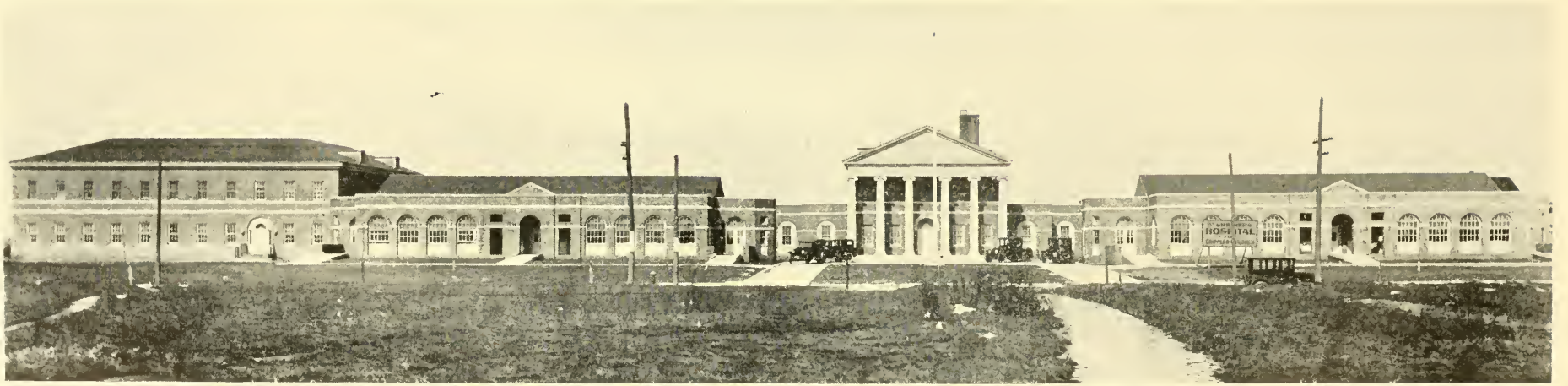
output was in excess of 40,000 magnetos per month and over 340,000 were produced and sold during the year, more than four times the number planned for by the old company.

At the close of 1918, this new company had secured approximately 12 per cent of the magneto business of the country—at the end of 1920, it was shipping approximately 50 per cent of the entire country's requirements. To produce these remarkable results the number of employees was increased from 768 in July, 1917, to 2,886 in July, 1920. In addition to increasing its production this new organization also found time to develop new magnetos that were great improvements over the old types.

During 1921 they acquired the extensive Gray & Davis plants in Cambridge and Amesbury, Mass., which permitted them to enter the automotive field with new starting and lighting products which were perfected and ready for market. During 1923 and 1924, they perfected other accessories such as Ford Ignition Systems, Fordson Governors, Electric Windshield Wipers with tandem attachments, Shock Absorbers, Spark Plugs, and now in 1925 are developing a complete line of Modern Radio Apparatus and an Automobile horn of the vibrating type. With branches in New York, Chicago, Detroit and San Francisco, controlling over 850 official Bosch Service Stations and more than 1,500 official dealers, at all points of the world, the American Bosch Magneto Corporation is well equipped to properly service the four million instruments of its manufacture that are in use throughout this and foreign countries.

The present officers are: Arthur T. Murray, president; Morris Metcalf, vice-president and treasurer; G. J. Land, secretary.

The Gilbert & Barker Manufacturing Company was incorporated in March, 1870, for the manufacture and sale of gas machines, steel barrels and storage tanks. The office and factory were located on Lyman street near Spring street in Springfield. The business was established in 1865 under another name with both Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Barker in executive positions. The Company prospered steadily and by its thorough methods of manufacture and unceasing care the Springfield Gas Machine won a reputation throughout the country for excellence in operation, durability and safety. Mr. Gilbert retired from the Company at the end of 1884. About 1886 the business was further increased by the introduction of fuel gas machinery and in 1890 of oil burning equipment, both for use in the industrial arts. The sales were thereby increased very largely and these low priced fuels became an important factor in the manufac-



SHRINERS HOSPITAL FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN, LIBERTY STREET, SPRINGFIELD

ture of many of our best known American products, such as Ford and Packard automobiles, Timken axles, Remington and Underwood typewriters, Edison and Victor phonographs, Knox hats, Roebling's wire rope, Springfield rifles, Smith and Wesson revolvers, International silver, Starrett and Pratt & Whitney tools, Yale & Towne locks and International Harvesters. With the increasing use of automobiles a need arose for better methods of dispensing gasoline and oils for their use. The manufacture of pumps and storage tanks was begun and has so increased that today the company is one of the great industries of New England and its product is known in every part of the world. In 1912 the business had so exceeded its factory capacity that a much larger plant was built in West Springfield. There were in all eleven buildings, having a total floor area of 85,752 square feet. Today there are twenty-two buildings, having a total floor space of 493,575 square feet. The number of employees increased from 187 in 1912 to 2300 in 1925. Mr. Barker retired at the end of 1912, after forty-seven years of service, and was succeeded as president by Mr. Robert H. McNall, the other officers being Mr. Charles C. Ramsdell, vice-president; Mr. William T. Rayner, treasurer; Mr. Walter H. Wood, assistant treasurer and clerk. The present officers (1925) are the same with the exception of Mr. Wood, who retired that year because of ill health and died soon after. Mr. Philip H. Bills succeeded him in both offices. The company has always enjoyed cordial relations with its employees and there have never been any labor troubles. A plan for annuity and benefits, adopted in 1918, provides generously for sick and disabled employees and for those who, after years of service, are retired from active work. The company did its part in the World War. A bronze tablet in the office entrance commemorates the 139 employees who were in the military service, including two who died for their country. It, together with its employees, subscribed freely to the several Liberty Loans and gave generously to the various relief funds which were raised at that time. It also was called upon to furnish much war material. Thousands of steel barrels, storage outfits for aviation fields, oil and gas burning equipment were necessary for the successful outcome of the War.

Chemical Products—Absorbine, Jr., an antiseptic liniment is manufactured in Springfield. "Absorbine" was compounded by Wilbur F. Young in Meriden, Conn., in 1891. He later moved the business to Springfield, Mass., in 1896. This liniment is known all

over North America among the horsemen and trainers. Mr. Young also put on the market Absorbine, Jr., the antiseptic liniment for mankind which is shipped all over the country. He had an excellent knowledge of chemistry and worked for many years on these products before they were put on the market. A plant was established in Montreal, Canada, to take care of the Canadian trade. He was sole owner of the business until his death in April, 1918. At that time the business was incorporated by his heirs and has been carried on very successfully. Absorbine, Jr., is advertised in all the leading magazines throughout the country. Absorbine, Jr., is compounded from herbs and vegetable oils gathered in all parts of the world, the herbs being percolated at the laboratories of the company. No expense has ever been spared to maintain the high quality of the product.

The Wright & Ditson Victor Company was organized in 1918 under the Massachusetts charter of the Victor Sporting Goods Company of Springfield and represents a consolidation of Wright & Ditson, Boston, organized by George Wright and Harry Ditson in 1871, one of the oldest, if not the oldest strictly athletic concern in this country and the Victor Sporting Goods Company organized in Chicopee Falls, Massachusetts, in 1898 by Charles B. Whitney and Frank J. Faulkner.

Both concerns maintained distributing branches throughout the United States and Canada, and both catered to the highest class trade.

Wright & Ditson specialized in lawn tennis supplies and athletic clothing and later in golf, and the Victor Sporting Goods Company in base ball, foot ball, basket ball and gymnastic supplies. Both lines have for years been recognized as standard and official by the governing boards of the organizations controlling standard sports, and both have as active members of their organization men of national reputation in the various lines of sport. As a result of the consolidation the sales departments of each were combined and New York made headquarters and the manuafcturing centered in the plant of the Victor Sporting Goods Company at Springfield which was enlarged for the purpose.

The company maintains retail stores in Boston, Cambridge, Worcester and Providence, distributing branches in New York, Chicago, San Francisco and Toronto, Canada and exclusive agencies in every city of importance in the United States and Canada. It is the largest manufacturer and distributor of tennis balls and rackets in this

NEW "SECURITY" OFFICE BUILDING, VERNON STREET, SPRINGFIELD

NEW MEMORIAL BRIDGE, SPRINGFIELD, WITH OLD COVERED BRIDGE IN COURSE OF REMOVAL

country, and one of the largest makers of standard base ball, foot ball, basket ball and golf supplies.

Its officers are George Wright, president; Frank J. Faulkner and John F. Morrill, vice-presidents; Charles B. Whitney, treasurer and factory manager; W. E. Faulkner, clerk and assistant factory manager, and P. H. Floyd, sales manager, who also constitute the board of directors.

The Victor line of athletic goods originated with the Overman Wheel Company (makers of Victor bicycles), of Chicopee Falls, Massachusetts, in 1893 and was continued by them up to 1898 when the department was purchased by Charles B. Whitney and Frank J. Faulkner, who organized the Victor Sporting Goods Company under Massachusetts laws and continued the manufacture of the complete line in the Overman plant until 1900, when it was moved to the Steam Power Company building on Lyman street, Springfield. Its business grew steadily and larger quarters became necessary and in 1913 the present plant at 88 Birnie avenue, Brightwood, was purchased and immediate possession taken. Later additions to this plant doubled its capacity. Frank J. Faulkner, Albert E. Taylor and Charles B. Whitney occupied the positions of president, vice-president, treasurer and manager, respectively, of the Victor Sporting Goods Company from the time of its organization in 1898 to its consolidation with Wright & Ditson in 1918.

Banks and Financial Institutions—The earliest bank in Springfield was the "Springfield Bank," organized in 1814, with Jonathan Dwight as president and Edward Pynchon as cashier. The original capital was $100,000. By 1849 it had increased its capital to $300,000. In 1864 this bank was re-organized as the Second National Bank, with Mr. Alexander, president, and Mr. Warriner, cashier.

The John Hancock National Bank was the successor to the old "John Hancock Bank," organized in 1850, with J. M. Thompson as president, and E. D. Chapin as cashier. It was organized as a national bank in 1865, and Col. Thompson was succeeded by R. S. Moore, as president.

The Chicopee National Bank was the successor of the "Chicopee Bank," organized May, 1836. George Bliss was president and Henry Seymour, cashier. The capital as far back as 1879 was $400,000. Their June, 1925, statement shows resources and liabilities amounting to $13,509,168.76. Of deposits, they showed $10,809,675.51. The present capital is $500,000. Their surplus and undivided profits are $991,269.

The present officers are: George A. MacDonald, president; L. W. White, vice-president; George J. Clark, cashier. There are fifteen members on the board of directors.

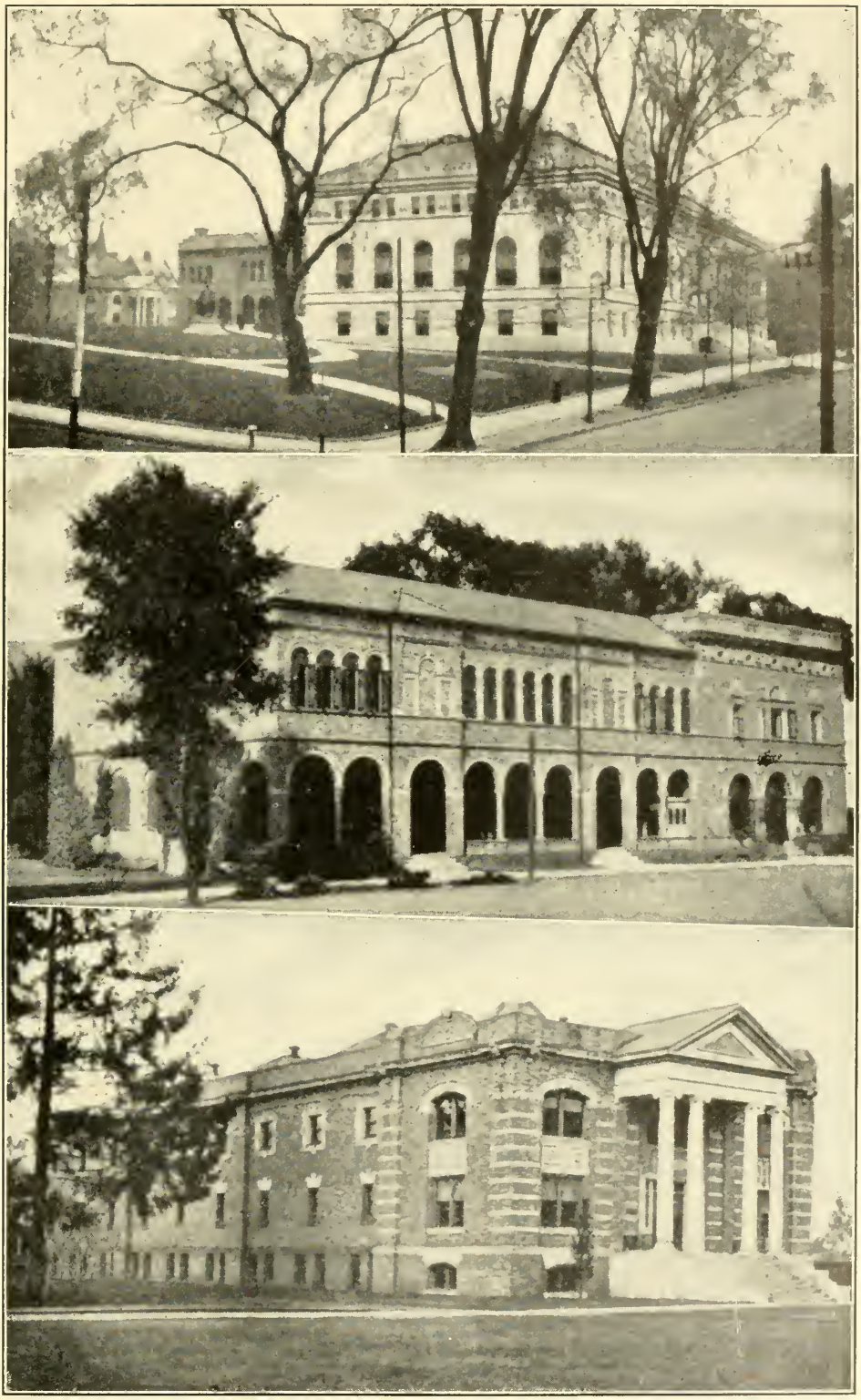
The Pynchon National Bank was organized as a "State Bank" in June, 1853, with H. N. Case, president; H. Alexander, Jr., cashier. It became a national bank April 29, 1865, and by 1869 had increased its capital to $200,000. Its interests were later merged with other banks.

The Agawam National Bank, successor to the old "Agawam Bank," organized in 1846 on a $100,000 capital, with C. W. Chapin as president and F. S. Bailey, cashier. In 1865 it was reorganized as a national bank with a capital of $300,000, with Marvin Chapin as president. In 1880 it advertised a capital of $500,000.

The Springfield Institution for Savings—This was incorporated June 16, 1827. Its first president was John Hooker, and John Howard the first treasurer. Samuel Reynolds was secretary. The total amount of deposits for the year 1827 was only $520.50. In 1849 it was moved from the Springfield Bank to the Foster Block, Main and State streets. The deposits then amounted to $609,064. The present location of this great financial institution is on Elm street, Court Square, and the building used exclusively for the corporation is among the best in the commonwealth. July 1, 1925, this concern had deposits amounting to $39,433,812.44, and their depositors numbered 60,916. Individual accounts run from $1.00 to $3,000. Their last published statement (July, 1925) shows liabilities and resources, $43,140,928.51. They hold for safe keeping for depositors, government bonds in the sum of $463,550.00.

The affairs of this institution are in the hands of a board of trustees numbering seventeen, and the present officers are: Winford N. Caldwell, president; William H. McClench, vice-president; John W. B. Brand, treasurer; Harold W. Hawkes, assistant treasurer; Alfred H. Hastings, assistant treasurer; Alfred Leeds, clerk.

The Hampden Savings Bank of Springfield was incorporated April 15, 1852, by a large number of citizens including the Chapins, Morgans, Bonds, Sanderson and others. The first officers were: Albert Morgan, president; the secretary was Augustus L. Soule; F. S. Bailey, treasurer. The first deposit was made by Edward Dahm for sixty dollars. In 1880 the deposits had increased to $1,500,000. The August, 1925, statement shows the condition of the banks to be: Number of depositors, 11,505; liabilities and resources, $9,058,098.47; U. S. bonds kept for safety of their owners,



MERRICK PARK, SPRINGFIELD'S EDUCATIONAL CENTER
LIBRARY— ART MUSEUM—SCIENCE MUSEUM

$170,950. This is a mutual bank and has no stockholders.

The present (1925) officers include these: Frederick H. Stebbins, president; Howard R. Bemis, Charles H. Mulligan, vice-presidents; John B. Phelps, treasurer; Frank L. Whitlock, assistant treasurer; Ernest D. Bugbee, clerk. There are fifteen trustees and proper auditing committee and a board of investment.

Springfield Five Cent Savings Bank—This institution was organized in 1854 by eleven prominent citizens of the place. The Chapin, Pynchon, Rice Rollins and Bond families were represented in the original organizers. The first year the deposits amounted to $1,250,000. The first president was Mr. Willis and he was succeeded by Dr. Joseph C. Pynchon. The present location of this bank is 425 Main street, near the Court Square. The present officers are Newrie D. Winter, president; Ralph W. Ellis, treasurer; Theodore B. Winter, assistant treasurer. Its board of fourteen trustees ably manage the policy of what has come to be a very large, safe banking business on the mutual plan for correct savings. Their July 14, 1925, statement shows they had on that date 29,736 depositors whose deposits amounted to $18,009,417.13. There are thirty-eight members of this corporation.

The Third National Bank was organized March 10, 1854, as a State bank, but in 1865, was converted into a national bank. It is a member of the Federal Reserve System and protects its depositors by capital and surplus to the amount of $2,000,000. Its present officers are Frederick Harris, president; Frederic M. Jones, vice-president; George C. Stebbins, assistant vice-president; Harlan S. Kaplinger, cashier; there are also five assistant cashiers. There are fifteen persons on the present board of directors. The affairs of this bank are divided into five departments—Commercial, Savings, Deposit Vaults and Investment departments. The published statement for June 30, 1925, shows their resources and liabilities to be $20,629,163.55. Of the liabilities there is the item of deposits amounting to $17,085,000. The capital and surplus is $2,000,000.

The Chapin National Bank—This institution was established in May, 1872, as the Chapin Banking and Trust Company by the following families: Chapin, Thompson, Trask, Fuller, Jr., Hyde, Baker, Bowles and Lee. It was not fully incorporated until 1873. C. W. Chapin was the first president and James D. Safford was the first cashier. From their legal statement issued June 30, 1925, it is learned that the resources and liabilities are $9,276,934.86. It has deposits amounting to $7,425,000. The main office is at the corner

of Main and Lyman streets, while other offices are at Forest Park and Brightwood; also a branch at Indian Orchard. The present officers are: Henry A. Woodward, president; John C. Kemater, vice-president; Harry Wells, vice-president and cashier; Charles A. Frazer, vice-president; G. W. Hutchinson, auditor.

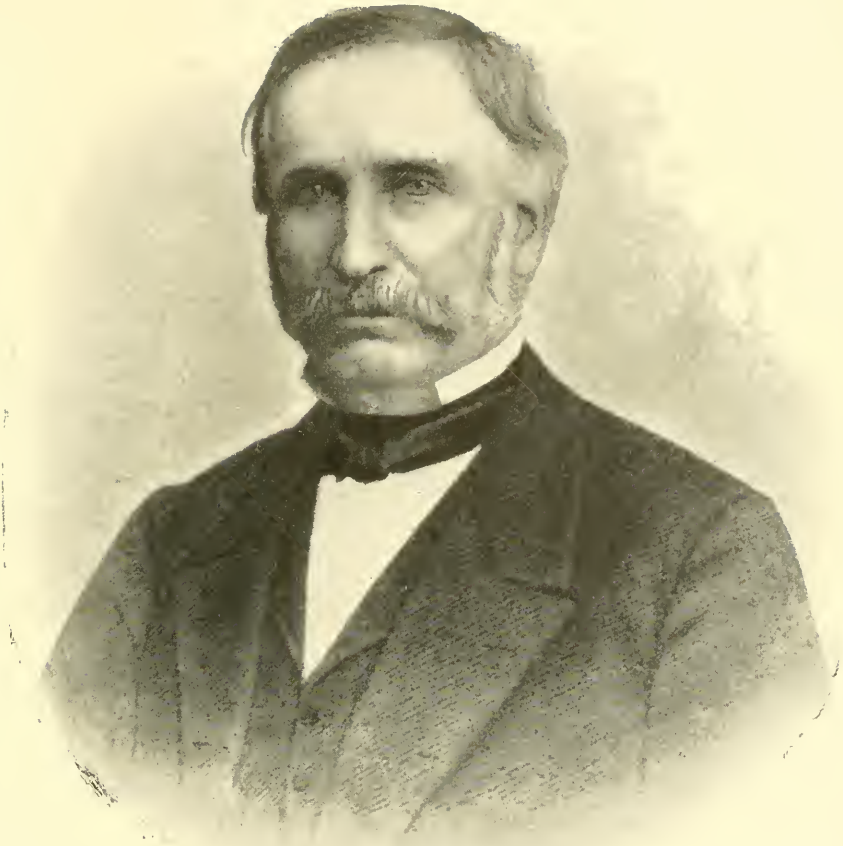
The Springfield Co-operative Bank was incorporated in 1882 and is now located at No. 10 East Court street. It is under supervision of the State Bank Commissioner. Loans are made on real estate to the amount of $8,000. A borrower must become a shareholder. The officers in the summer of 1925 are as follows: H. W. Morrill, president; W. D. Bigelow, vice-president; E. A. Hall, vice-president; A. C. Wentworth, treasurer. There are twelve persons serving on the board of directors. This bank pays interest at the rate of five per cent per annum. At the close of business, April 14, 1925, the statement shows assets and liabilities to the amount of $3,271,693.94.

Springfield Safe Deposit and Trust Company was incorporated in 1886 and now has capital, undivided profits and surplus amounting to $2,000,000. The present officers are George H. Kemater, president; Harry L. Bradley, vice-president and treasurer; Edward Kronvall, vice-president and trust-officer; Harold White and Robert Emerson, assistant treasurers; E. Converse Lincoln and Chester J. Chambers, assistant trust-officers. There are nineteen members on the Board of Directors. At their accounting July 1, 1925, they had resources and liabilities to the amount of $12,447,234.12 in the Banking Department; and in the Trust Department their resources and liabilities were $17,859,497.52. Total of banking and trust departments—$30,306,731.64. This institution is located on the corner of Main and State streets.

Hampden Co-operative Bank, at No. 145 State street, was incorporated July 21, 1919. Its assets are now $327,861.85. The officers are Henry W. Lloyd, president; Harold Bellows, vice-president; Captain Harry R. King, treasurer; Frank Auchter, attorney. Their last statement, August, 1925, gives the amount of liabilities and assets at $327,861.55; earnings for the last year, $19,185.

The Commercial Trust Company was established September 15, 1915. Its president is A. J. Skinner; vice-president, F. P. Donahue; R. H. Flagg, treasurer. Its latest statement shows resources and liabilities to the amount of $4,134,094.04.

The Springfield National Bank was organized in 1893, and at the close of business on June 30, 1925, it had liabilities and resources



Truly Yours
C. W. Chapin

amounting to $15,023,443.50. Its location is corner Main and Bridge streets. Its present officers are: Henry H. Bowman, president; Wallace V. Camp, cashier; Robert W. Day, Ralph P. Alden, vice-presidents. There are nineteen on the board of directors.

The Federal Land Bank of Springfield (a United States Institution) was organized by charter under Congressional act approved July, 1916. It is one of twelve like banks in the United States and this branch cares for the needs of all New England, New York and New Jersey. This bank has loaned out to 12,000 farmers nearly $36,000,000 since it was opened in 1917. The purpose is to make first mortgage loans on improved farm property. It has many excellent worth-while features. At the close of business August 30, 1925, their report shows assets and liabilities amounting to $44,185,-768.56.

The report on the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, closely allied with the last named bank, had assets and liabilities August 30, 1925, amounting to $7,457,777.36. This institution was chartered in 1923. This was established by the act of Congress in 1923 to give better agricultural credits to the people of the United States. It is under one set of officers, as follows: Edward H. Thompson, president; B. G. McIntire, vice-president; John J. Merriman, treasurer; Erwin H. Forbush, secretary. The general management of affairs devolves on the board of seven directors.

The Union Trust Company—This banking institution, one of the latest to form in the city of Springfield, was incorporated and their first meeting was held January 5, 1906, in the offices of the late Henry H. Skinner, a local banker, who must ever be regarded as the prime-mover whose business foresight conceived the demand in Springfield for just such a financial institution, and was instrumental in inducing the following men to become original incorporators in "The Union Trust Company of Springfield, Massachusetts":

John F. Alvord, P. S. Bailey, Henry J. Beebe, Gurdon Bill, Charles W. Bosworth, C. F. Brooker, Edwin A. Carter, Lewis F. Carr, C. L. Goodhue, James W. Kirkham, Alfred N. Mayo, Robert O. Morris, Robert P. Perkins, Lewis J. Powers, James D. Safford, Joseph Shattuck, Henry H. Skinner, L. S. Stowe, J. H. Wesson, W. H. Wesson.

The Union Trust Company is a consolidation of four Springfield national banks and one Springfield trust company; the City National Bank being the first, followed by the First National Bank, Second National Bank and the John Hancock National Bank dur-

ing the year 1906; in 1909 the Hampden Trust Company was absorbed into this consolidation and Edward S. Bradford, president of that company, and Joseph C. Allen, treasurer, were elected vice-president and treasurer, respectively, of the Union Trust Company. Following the decease of Mr. Bradford, Mr. Allen was elected vice-president in his place.

The first officers elected were as follows: Charles W. Bosworth, chairman of the Board of Directors and president; James D. Safford, vice-president; William E. Gilbert, vice-president and treasurer; Charles W. Churchill was subsequently elected secretary. The original capital stock was $500,000, with a paid-up surplus of $250,000.

The banking department of this great financial concern grew from about $1,000,000 in 1906 to $14,000,000 in 1925. During the same period the trust company department has shown a gain of from no assets to over $11,000,000. The present capital is $500,000, with surplus and undivided profits of $1,750,000. These figures indicate a consistent growth of deposits in its banking department.

It addition to its banking department, which includes foreign service and all lines of general banking, a trust department is successfully conducted under the watch-care of Harris A. Colwell, Trust Officer. In all departments the Union Trust Company employs about seventy persons, all of whom are experts in their several positions.

The casual observer, as well as the skilled architect and artist, must readily appreciate the beauty of the present magnificent bank structure now occupied by this institution. It was completed in 1908 on the site of the old Second National Bank on Main street, one of the absorbed institutions of the present Trust Company. Its special features are originality of design and its construction for the exclusive use of its own rapidly increasing volume of business.

The present (1925) officers and directors of the Union Trust Company are as follows: Officers—Charles S. Bosworth, chairman, Board of Directors; William E. Gilbert, president; William H. Haskins, treasurer; Harris A. Colwell, assistant treasurer and trust officer; Frederick W. Ferree, assistant trust officer; Roy C. Chapin, assistant treasurer; Frank H. Burt, secretary; B. L. Bragg, Jr., assistant secretary. Directors—Henry J. Beebe, Howard R. Bemis, Charles W. Bosworth, Henry L. Bowles, Phelps Brown, Ernest D. Bugbee, S. Richard Carlisle, Edwin A. Carter, William

F. Collins, E. T. Davis, George H. Empsall, Harry G. Fisk, William E. Gilbert, Dwight Gilmore, George M. Hendee, George M. Holbrook, H. Everton Hosley, James W. Kirkman, Dr. Edward J. Mahoney, William P. Porter, Philip C. Powers, Charles C. Ramsdell, Frank C. Rice, Ray M. Sanford, Willard F. Smith, Lucius S. Storrs, William W. Tapley, William F. Whiting, Edward C. Whiting, Newrie D. Winter.

Insurance Companies—But few if any business factors have given Springfield a name from ocean to ocean equal to that given it by reason of its great insurance companies, with their branch offices in many sections of the country. The Springfield Fire and Marine Insurance Company has been in the insurance field since 1849—three-quarters of a century. One of the earliest signs for the use of agents contained these points: "Capital Stock, $150,000, with ample surplus." Directors were Edmund Freeman, Jacob W. Merrick, George Walker, Chester W. Chapin, Daniel L. Harris, Willis Phelps, Andrew Huntington, Marvin Chapin, Samuel S. Day, Edward Southworth, Albert Morgan, Charles Merriam, Whitsill Hastings. The first president was Edmund Freeman; first secretary, William Conner, Jr. The first policy was sold in Vermont July 24, 1851. The presidents who have faithfully served at various periods to the president are: Edmund Freeman, elected in 1851; Dwight R. Smith, elected in 1874; Jarvis N. Dunham, elected in 1880; Andrew J. Wright, elected in 1891; A. Willard Damon, elected in 1895; George C. Buckley, elected in 1924, and still serving. The magnificent spacious home office on State street, near the public library, was completed July 3, 1905. The head office employs one hundred and seventy-five men and women; they have out twenty-seven field men, managing 2,300 agents, who during 1923 wrote premiums to the amount of $5,479,195. Policies go to all parts of this country and Canada. A large general office is located in Chicago, and the Pacific Coast has a large agency doing a vast business. The assets in 1849 amounted to only $150,000, but in 1924 the amount was $22,473,096. The surplus to policy-holders in 1924 was $8,451,091. Brains and integrity have been the mainsprings of the success of this corporation. This company has come through the great conflagrations unscathed, including the Chicago fire of 1871, as well as the Boston fire one year later.

The Mutual Fire Assurance Company of Springfield—This company was incorporated February, 1827, and was the fourth mutual

insurance company formed in Massachusetts, the Worcester Mutual, the Hingham Mutual and the Middletown Mutual being in advance of it. The incorporators of the Springfield company were Zebina Stebbins, Joseph Carew, David Ames, Festus Stebbins, Walter Stebbins, John Newbury, Sable Rogers, and Jacob Bliss. Its charter was extended twenty years in 1847 and made perpetual in 1856. At first no agents were employed and only first-class farm risks were taken, and that not in excess of $4,000. January 1, 1925, the statement shows amount of risks to be $7,198,500; cash surplus, $337,877.58. In this the ninety-eighth annual report it is seen that their liabilities and unearned premium reserve was $59,-639.63. Present officers include—Charles C. McElwain, president; Herbert E. Huie, secretary and treasurer. There is a board of nine directors well calcuated to look after the affairs of the company.

The Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company, of Springfield, was incorporated August 1, 1851, beginning with a guarantee capital of $100,000. Caleb Rice was the first president of the company, serving until his death in 1873, when he was succeeded by E. W. Bond. The assets at the close of the first year were $108,-397. As far back as 1875 the assets of this company were $6,102,-915. The 1924 statement of this company shows liabilities of $192,-577,084.87. The assets are $204,464,411. This shows an excess of assets over liabilities, $11,887,326.74, for a safety margin. Insurance in force now (December 31, 1924), $1,151,487,971; death claims paid, $7,792,787; dividends to policy-holders, $6,633,989; total payments to policy-holders, $19,720,636; the total number of policies written by this company in force now, 355,313, insuring all in the sum of $1,151,487,971. The company has outgrown a second large office building in Springfield. Their present great structure on Main and State streets was completed in 1908, and the number of office employes was one hundred, but today there are five hundred at work in various departments. More room is needed and at this time there is being constructed a mammoth structure, on modern plans, the site being on upper State street, with a frontage of 390 feet on the main highway between Springfield and Boston. Its depth is 300 feet, and the floor space is 75,000 square feet, on each of the four floors. The present officers of the company include the following: William W. McClench, president; William H. Sargeant, vice-president; Wheeler H. Hall, secretary; Charles H. Angell, actuary; Joseph C. Behan, superintendent of agencies; Morton Snow, medical doctor, medical director.

SPRINGFIELD

BUSY MAIN STREET

MAIN STREET NORTH FROM HAMPDEN STREET

MUNICIPAL GROUP

MAIN STREET FROM POST OFFICE

MAIN STREET

Railroad Interests—Springfield is one of the finest railway centers in the commonwealth. It fortunately has 155 passenger trains daily and direct connections with New York, 136 miles distant, and Boston, 99 miles away, while Albany, New York, is 103 miles, and Montreal, Canada, 314. It is now the converging point of the three principal New England trunk lines, and the crossing of prominent highways which contribute to the ease of importation of raw material and the exportation of finished products, East, West, North and South.

In 1904 it was written of the city's railway facilities: "Five lines of railway carry and bring freight and passengers to and from Springfield and the volume of business grows steadily. The street railway carried 1,900,000 passengers over its ninety-four miles of track in 1904."

Soon after the Hartford & Springfield Railroad went into operation in 1844, the old-time river steamboating ceased. By act of the Legislature in April, 1839, the Hartford & Springfield Company was organized and March 13, 1841, the charter was extended two years, and it was three years more before it was constructed and not fully completed until some time in 1844.

June 23, 1831, the Boston & Worcester Railroad Corporation began building and it was finished in July, 1836.

March 15, 1833, the Western Railroad Corporation was organized with its western terminus to connect with the Boston & Worcester near the state line in the direction of the Hudson river. The first train was run from Worcester to Springfield October, 1839. That part of the railroad extending west from Springfield was so far constructed that trains begun running from Springfield to Chester Factories May 24, 1841, and the line was fully in operation between Springfield and Albany in 1842. The running time from Albany to Boston was ten and three-fourths hours, or within the speed limit of twenty miles an hour. George Bliss was one of the prime movers in railroading in Western Massachusetts and the names of James B. Calhoun, George Ashmun, Charles Stearns, Justice Willard and J. B. Sheffield also figured in the early plans for the Western Railroad Company, which was matured in the thirties.

The railroad between Springfield and Chicopee was provided for in the act incorporating the Hartford & Springfield Company. March 1, 1842, a railroad corporation was established under the name of the Northampton & Springfield Railroad Corporation, to

build a line from Northampton to meet the track of the Hartford & Springfield line at Cabotsville in Springfield. January 25, 1845, the Greenfield & Northampton Company was incorporated as an extension of the Northampton & Springfield Railroad. Such was the beginning of what was subsequently the Connecticut Valley Railroad Company. This road was opened as far as Greenfield in April, 1847.

The Springfield & Longmeadow Railroad Company was incorporated May 2, 1849, and in 1866 the act of incorporation was amended so as to permit a terminus at the State line at either Longmeadow or Wilbraham. Later this became a part of the Connecticut corporation under the name of the Springfield & New London Railroad Company. By an act of 1869, the city of Springfield was authorized to take stock in, or loan its credit to that road. A proposal for a subscription of stock to the amount of $150,000 in the Longmeadow road was accepted by the city government and voted upon at a special election of the people July 21, 1874. Soon thereafter the road was completed.

The Athol & Enfield Railroad was connected with Springfield by an act of incorporation in 1871, with authority for the two roads to become one corporation by uniting the Athol & Enfield line with the Athol & Springfield Railroad.

As time went on many changes were effected in the smaller lines of steam railroads in this valley, until today the railroad facilities of Hampden County are almost exclusively under the ownership or control of the Boston & Maine, Boston & Albany and the New York, New Haven and Hartford companies. Just at present, there is being erected one of the finest union station buildings in the State, at Springfield. It will be absolutely fire-proof—made of steel, reinforced cement and brick.

Street Railway System—In the spring of 1868 the project of providing Springfield with a street railroad system was first undertaken. The pioneers in this enterprise were Chester W. Chapin and Henry Alexander, who then had in mind the establishment of a horse car-line. At that time there were three omnibus lines—one down Main street to Mill river; one through Maple street to Watershop and the third to Oak street on Armory Hill. Charters were granted May 5, 1868, and the law provided that at least fifty per cent of the capital should be paid in before the charter was effective. The money could not be raised—the people did

MASONIC TEMPLE, SPRINGFIELD

not enthuse over such an innovation. Finally George M. Atwater, who had experience in such work in Cleveland, Ohio, came on to Springfield and by hard work succeeded in getting the names of sixty-four subscribers to stock. They organized and purchased the old 'bus lines which ceased running in 1870. A stable was erected on Hooker street in 1869 and two and one-half miles of track were laid, and completed March 10, 1870. The first equipment consisted of four bob-tailed cars about twelve feet in length. The fares were fixed at eight cents or sixteen rides for a dollar. When winter came on the cars paid no attention to the iron rails, but were shifted to snow runners, and thus the cars went sliding over the streets. This method obtained until 1876, since which date the cars have always run on wheels in winter as well as summertime.

In 1876 President Atwater resigned and John Olmsted succeeded him until his death in 1905. In 1879 a sheet of tickets was sold for five dollars, good for one hundred rides. Single fare cost seven cents. The line was double-tracked and in 1882 open cars were first introduced. These cars only had five benches for seats. In 1884 several extensions were made, and in the autumn of 1888 a petition was presented the aldermen to use electricity as a motive power on the Mill River line. The telephone company objected strongly and the courts had to settle the matter. It was claimed by the telephone people that the rattle of the cars and the interference with the electric current would destroy the working of the phones of the city. Permission was granted December 23, 1889, to use electricity on the car lines here. The first line was from State to Sumner streets opposite Forest Park. In the summer of 1890 the first trial trip was made with two cars. In 1891 all lines had introduced the "juice," as the slang expression now has it. A straight five cent fare was then introduced in Springfield. In 1892 a line was extended to Indian Orchard; 1895 to connect with Holyoke lines; 1894 the power-house was built on Margaret street. The Agawam line was completed in 1900. In 1905 the Electric Railway company had ninety-four miles of track—equal to any in the country. Forty-eight miles of this system was within the city, proper. The number of closed cars was then one hundred and seven; of open cars one hundred and twenty. No other factor has so greatly enhanced the value of property in and surrounding the city of Springfield as has the street and inter-urban electric car system.

Springfield Civic Societies—Throughout the civilized portion of the globe today there exist numerous secret fraternities which exert a most satisfactory influence in the communities where they are situated. Without entering into detail concerning the workings of such orders, let it be said that the three most popular and important civic fraternities, or lodges, are known as the Free Masons, the most ancient of all other orders; the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and, third, the Knights of Pythias. There are semi-secret and beneficiary orders throughout America in an almost endless number, many of which with the three straight civic orders, are well represented in Springfield, as will be seen presently.

Masonic Lodges—The first Masonic lodge instituted in Springfield was Hampden Lodge No. 79, the date of its charter being March 11, 1817, and the names inscribed on the charter are as follows: Col. Roswell Lee; Ezra Osborne, Jr.; Joseph Hopkins; Alba Fish; Joel Brown; Chester B. Chappell; John Burt; George Colton; Warren Church; William H. Foster; Diah Allen; Stephen Cooley, Jr.; John Hawkins and John Newbury. All but two or three of these charter members were associated with the U. S. Armory of Springfield. At the date of organizing, thirteen more were admitted, making the original lodge start out with twenty-seven members.

The original officers were inclusive of these: Roswell Lee, W. M.; Elisha Tobey, J. W.; John Hawkins, Treasurer; Diah Allen, J. D.; Justice William Willard, S. W.; George Colton, S.; Warren Church, S. D.; John Hopkins, Tyler. When this lodge was instituted the nearest lodge to it was Friendly Society of West Springfield.

Hampden Lodge was among the Masonic lodges to be invited to attend the corner-stone laying of Bunker Hill monument June 25, 1825, at which Daniel Wester made one of his greatest orations.

The lodge homes of this Masonic lodge have been as follows: The first meeting place was at the corner of Main and Court streets, from 1817 to 1819; in the Gunn Hall building, Walnut and State, 1819-20; in the Carew Building, 1820-28; over the old town hall, 1828-74, on State street; Masonic Hall, in part of the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Building, 1874-93; Second Masonic Hall, dedicated October 24, 1893; the present magnificent Temple on State street, finished in 1924-25.

Roswell Lee Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Springfield,

OLD MASONIC TEMPLE HOME OF MT. ORTHODOX LODGE, BUILT 1800, MEETING HOUSE HILL, WEST SPRINGFIELD. FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

was granted dispensation February 29, 1864. The charter was received March 14, 1865, and its first officers were: E. W. Clark, W. M.; S. B. Spooner, S. W.; J. B. Hunt, J. W.; A. E. Foth, treasurer; W. T. Ingraham, secretary; George T. Weaver, S. D.; Robert Morris, J. D.; H. G. Shaw, S. S.; Edwin Cady, J. S.; James M. Porter, Marshal; George D. Rollins, Tyler.

Morning Star Chapter of Royal Arch Masons was chartered June 29, 1818, with Osgood Lee as High Priest.

Springfield Council of Royal and Select Masters worked under a warrant dated May 28, 1818.

Springfield Commandery of Knights Templar received its charter for an Encampment June 19, 1826.

Evening Star Lodge of Perfection began work under a charter dated May 18, 1866.

Massasoit Council, Princes of Jerusalem, received its charter May 19, 1866.

The present (1925) Masonic bodies in Springfield are as follows: Hampden Lodge, A. F. & A. M.; Roswell Lee, A. F. & A. M.; Indian Orchard, A. F. & A. M.; Springfield Lodge, A. F. & A. M.; Esoteric, A. F. & A. M.; Samuel Osgood, A. F. & A. M.; Samuel D. Sherwood, A. F. & A. M.; Morning Star Chapter, Royal Arch Masons; Springfield Council, Royal Scottish Masons; Springfield Commandery of Knights Templar; Evening Star Lodge of Perfection; Massasoit Council, Princes of Jerusalem; Springfield Chapter of Rose Croix (Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite); Melha Temple, Shriners; Adelphi Chapter, Order of Eastern Star; Dwight Clark Chapter No. 148, Order of Eastern Star; Springfield Chapter, Order of Eastern Star; Laurel Court No. 1, Order of Amaranth; Past Masters Council No. 462; Springfield Masonic Hall Association; Acacia Club, State street; Masonic Club, Oak street.

Colored Masonry—Sumner Lodge, A. F. & A. M.; T. T. Chapter and Van Horn Commandery No. 8.

The New Masonic Temple—The finishing touches are just being made by trained artisans on what will be the pride of Massachusetts Free Masonry—the handsome, massive new Masonic Temple, situated on State street opposite the U. S. Armory grounds. It stands in almost the exact geographical center of the city. It is fireproof and has a frontage of 116 feet on State street and is 180 feet deep. Architecturally the temple is a structure of "massive magnificence and stately beauty." While in nature and spirit of design it suggests the chasteness and simplicity of classic archi-

tecture at its best, the detail is borrowed from the ancient Assyrian and Phoenician temples erected 500 years B. C. It is, therefore, representative of the earliest beginnings of Freemasonry and links the mythology and tradition of the past to the reality of the present. Great attention has been given to the main floor. First there is the impressive and dignified foyer of Doric type, with mosaic pavement, niches and eight columns extending beyond the first mezzanine. In the numerous lodge rooms and auditorium, provisions have been made for five pipe organs.

As has been written by a brother Mason: "Type can hardly portray either the beauty, ruggedness or magnificence of the new Temple. It is sufficient to say that, completed, it will stand as an enduring monument to those whose faith, good will and love for the great fraternity in which they are enrolled in common purpose made it possible."

Odd-Fellowship—Hampden Lodge No. 27, instituted February 27, 1844, was the first order of this kind in Springfield. It was granted a dispensation issued by E. H. Chapin, Grand Master of Massachusetts. In 1845 enough members from this pioneer lodge withdrew from No. 27 to form a lodge at Pittsfield, or Berkshire No. 57. In the same year, the Grand Lodge granted a charter to Samuel Wells and others to form Nonotuck Lodge No. 61 at Northampton. Also at that period St. John's Lodge No. 62, at Cabotville, now Chicopee (but then in Springfield), a charter was granted. At the May session of Grand Lodge in 1845, W. T. Davis and others received permission to organize an Odd Fellows lodge at Greenfield, as Pocomptuck Lodge No. 67. The present lodges of this order in Springfield are as follows: Hampden Lodge No. 27; Phoenix Lodge No. 97; De Soto Lodge No. 155; Amity Lodge No. 172; Bay Path Lodge No. 234; Monitor Lodge No. 243; Agawam Encampment No. 25; Canton No. 23; Morning Star Rebekah Lodge No. 9; Lucy Webb Hayes Rebekah Lodge No. 126; Jay W. Nickels Rebekah Lodge No. 183; Loyal Golden Rule No. 7,096; Loyal Springfield Lodge M. U.; Golgotha Household of Ruth, Golden Chain Lodge 1,549, G. U. O. of Odd Fellows.

Royal Arcanum, Equity Council No. 86; Home Relief of Equity Council No. 96; Supreme Council of Ladies of the Royal Arcanum; Pynchon Council No. 1368; Springfield Council No. 1, Loyal Ladies of the Royal Arcanum.

Knights of Pythias Lodge of Springfield, No. 63; Henry S. Lee Lodge No. 151, Endowment Rank No. 554.

BUILDING OF SPRINGFIELD LODGE, B. P. O. E., STATE STREET, BUILT IN 1914

Ancient Order of United Workmen—Miles Morgan Lodge No. 95; Springfield Lodge No. 36; Pynchon Lodge No. 221.

Knights of Columbus—Home City Council No. 63; Indian Orchard Council No. 160.

Catholic Order of Foresters—This order has seven lodges or courts in Springfield.

New England Order of Protection has four lodges—196, 457 and 553.

Independent Order of Red Men—Ousamequis Tribe No. 14; Toto Tribe No. 96; Degree of Pocahontas Council No. 15; Degree of Pocahontas Council No. 63.

Foresters of America—This order has nine courts in Springfield.

Independent Order of Brith Abraham has three lodges—Nos. 239, 317 and 195.

Mayors of Springfield—Since Springfield became a city in 1852, its mayors have been as follows:

Caleb Rice 1852-53
Philos B. Tyler.....1854
Eliphalet Trask 1855
Ansel Phelps, Jr.....1856-58
William B. Calhoun.....1859
Daniel L. Harris.....1860
Stephen C. Bemis.....1861-62
Henry Alexander, Jr.....1863-64
Albert D. Briggs.....1865-67
Charles A. Winchester..1868-69
William L. Smith.....1870-71
S. B. Spooner 1872-73
John M. Stebbins.....1874
Emerson Wight 1875-78
Lewis J. Powers.....1879-80
William H. Haile.....1881
Edwin W. Ladd 1882
Henry M. Phillips.....1883-85
Edwin D. Metcalf.....1886
Elisha B. Maynard.....1887-88
Edward S. Bradford.....1889-91
Lawson Sibley 1892
E. P. Kendrick.....1893-94
Charles L. Long.....1895
Newire D. Winter.....1896
Henry S. Dickinson.....1897-98
Dwight O. Gilmore.....1899
William P. Hayes.....1900-01
Ralph W. Ellis.....1902
Everett E. Stone.....1903-04
Francke W. Dickinson..1905-06
William E. Sanderson..1907-09
Edward H. Lathrop.....1910-12
John A. Denisin 1913-14
Frank E. Stacy.....1915-18
Arthur A. Adams.....1919-20
Edwin F. Leonard..... 1921-24
Fordis C. Parker.....1925—

Population by Decades—In 1791—1,574; 1800—2,250; 1810—2,767; 1820—3,914; 1830—6,784; 1840—10,985; 1850—11,330; 1860—15,199; 1870—26,703; 1880—33,340; 1890—44,179; 1900—62,059; 1910—88,926; 1920—129,338; 1925—155,549.

The Fire Department—The first record of a fire department in Springfield was dated January 17, 1794, when the company had members as follows: Jonathan Dwight, Thomas Dwight, George Bliss, William Smith, Joseph Williams, William and Charles Sheldon, Samuel Lyman, Zebina Stebbins, Chauncey Brewer, Luke Bliss, William Pynchon, John Hooker, Bezaleel Howard, Zenas Parsons, and James Byers. One of the articles of their by-laws reads: "Each member of the company shall constantly keep two fire-bags and buckets, with his name thereon, hung up by the front door of his house, and when any buildings of any member is on fire, or his property in danger, shall with his bags and buckets instantly repair thereto, and the company shall take possession of such building and exclude all persons except the family of the owner."

Mr. Blake, a foreman of the old company, succeeded in organizing the later Springfield Fire Department in 1830, and was chosen its first chief engineer. The names of sundry fire companies and hook-and-ladder companies may be summed up by the one word "Legion." In 1879 the record shows the then value of the Fire-Alarm Telegraph system in Springfield was $15,119, and it then had twenty-five miles of wire and twenty-six signal boxes all under charge of W. J. Denver. The old "Water-spout Engine" made for use at the U. S. Armory was in its day a great fire fighting machine. It was put into commission in 1865. With passing time all of the improved appliances known have been tested here and if practical have been introduced. With the rapid growth of the city it has been almost impossible for the fire department to keep pace with the growth, and today many improvements and buildings are needed for the comfort and safety of the people and their property. The 1925 report of the Chief of the department shows there are 323 members of the Fire Department, of which 306 constitute the fire-fighting force; 11 the division of fire alarm and one department clerk. Thirty-six firemen have been recently assigned to do police duty at certain hours when school children are passing by given points en route to and from school. In 1925 there were 1,327 alarms of fire sent in; false alarms, 125; still alarms, 157. The total amount appropriated for the department during the last year was $812,196. The total amount expended was $786,576.

Deputy Chief Everett A. Kimball retired January 1, 1925, after serving more than thirty-eight years. The present Chief is W. H. Daggett. The Superintendent of Fire Alarms is Herbert H. Berry. The approximate loss by fires in the city the last year was $390,000.

NEW UNION STATION, SPRINGFIELD

UNITED STATES WATERSHOPS, SPRINGFIELD

This was covered as much as average by insurance. The per capita loss in Springfield was $2.52.

The report of the department just issued shows a great need for more apparatus and more young men to be trained for firemen, in order to place the city, with its rapid growth and territorial expansion, in a safe condition.

The present Board of Fire Commissioners is as follows: William W. Tapley, Charles B. Hitchcock, Edward O. Davis, Thomas J. Sheridan, John D. Stuart. The Board of Fire Chiefs includes these: Chief of the Department—William H. Daggett; Deputy Chiefs—John R. Graves, H. C. Root, Burton Steere, Arthur H. Strong, Charles S. Taylor, Frederick C. Wright, James L. Coffey, Horace C. Feltham.

Water Supply—Previous to 1843 Springfield was supplied with water from wells on private lands, but after the construction of the Western Railroad the rapidly increasing population demanded more water than could be afforded by wells. The water systems first in use after 1843 were private undertakings, the first of which was headed by Hon. Charles Stearns. In June, 1843, he commenced building a reservoir and strung a long line of log pipes therefrom to the depot, down Main street as far as Howard street. The size of the bore was four, six and seven inches. In 1848 Mr. Stearns and associates were granted articles of incorporation by the Legislature, and in June, 1848, the "Springfield Aqueduct Company" was organized with a capital of $25,000, all of which was paid to Mr. Stearns for his water improvements. The water rents at that date amounted to $2,700 per year and 700 families were customers. In 1860 it was seen that more and better systems must obtain and the city council looked for more water sources. In 1860 the City Aqueduct Company, composed of R. A. Chapman, P. B. Tyler, G. R. Townsley and D. L. Harris, was organized. The seven-inch pipe laid by this company from Lake Como afforded fifty gallons per minute.

The next advance was made in 1875 when water was conveyed from Ludlow through pipes by gravitation. The works were then placed under a board of water commissioners. As time went on more water was needed and has been provided by the scientific spirit of the age. There are now 269 miles of water pipe laid in the city; number fire hydrants, 2,231; average water pressure on Main street, 140 pounds; in the Hill section it is eighty pounds per square

inch. Immense storage plants are located in Ludlow and Little River country. The aggregate storage capacity is now 4,030,518,000 gallons. Since 1872 the water works have been the property of the city. The present average daily consumption per capita is eighty-nine gallons. Features of the water of Springfield are its "softness" and purity and freedom from mineral tastes.

Police Department—The present Police Department is under the Police Commission, made up this year of James Milton Gill, James A. Mahoney and George Pirnie. The chief of police is William J. Quilty; deputy chief is Henry M. Perkins, and department clerk, Anna A. Kelliher. There are now two hundred and twenty-three policemen and thirty-five reserve officers. The department is fully equipped with eight automobiles, consisting of two vans, one large touring car, a small touring car, and four Fords; also seven motorcyles. The police reported in last year 1,342 accidents in the city, of which 1,139 were by automobiles and one horse runaway accident. There are now employed two policewomen and three matrons. The city pays officers of this department as follows: Chief, $4,400; deputy, $3,300; captains of the watch, each $2,365; sergeants, each $2,255; lieutenants, $2,365; captains of detectives, $2,695; detective lieutenants, each $2,365; patrolmen, $5.15 to $5.80 per day; matrons, $1,100 per year; superintendent of police telephone, $600.

Introduction of Gas-Light—The Springfield Gas-light Company was organized in 1848, and commenced the manufacture of gas from rosin, and so continued to operate until 1850, when coal was substituted. This was the first city in the State, outside of Boston, to produce gas-light. At first there were only seveny-five consumers and the first gasometer only had a capacity of 6,000 cubic feet. The first officers of the company were: Lyman Merrick, president; Theodore Stebbins, clerk, and George Dwight as treasurer. In 1880 this company had thirty miles of pipe and a 300,000 cubic foot gasometer. At that date they had 2,500 patrons. Since then the works have steadily forged to the front of modern enterprises and is now handled by the "Springfield Gas-light Company," whose stock-holders are largely interested in the electric light plant of the place, though they are separate corporations.

Introduction of Electricity—The first electric light was installed in Springfield in 1887, and for propelling street cars in 1890, while the first electric telephone was installed in 1879, among the first in the country.

CITY HALL, SPRINGFIELD, BUILT 1856, BURNED JANUARY 6, 1905

CHAPTER V

THE CITY AND TOWN OF HOLYOKE

The early history of Holyoke is one and the same as that of Springfield and West Springfield towns, for originally it belonged to that territory. It derived its name "Ireland" or Third Parish of West Springfield from an Irish family named Riley, who came in prior to 1745, and located in the southern portion of the town, near Riley Brook. One of the permanent settlers to locate was Benjamin Ball, great-grand-father of Col. E. H. Ball, who settled in 1745 on the old Col. Ball farm. There were but six families in this parish at first and the record shows they "forted together nights for fear of the Indians." By 1825 the town had become fairly well settled up. The first pioneer band included such sturdy men as Elisha Ashley, Adam Ives, Noah Wolcott, Austin Goodyear, Caleb Hummerston, Miles Dickerman, Michael Fuller. The two last named were colored men and they carried on quite an extensive produce trade in purchasing produce and bringing in goods from Springfield. The earliest move toward utilizing the now famous water-power at Holyoke was in 1831, when the Hadley Falls Company was organized.

The Town of Holyoke was set off by the General Court in 1850 and March 14 that year it was organized as a Town, with its present boundaries. The first Selectmen were Fayette Smith and Harvey Chapin. Holyoke was established as a city by act of the Legislature March 28, 1873, and the bill was signed by Governor W. B. Washburn April 7 that year. The first mayor was W. B. C. Pearson; aldermen—William Grover, Henry A. Chase, Austin Sturberg, John H. Wright, John O'Donnell, G. W. Prentiss and James F. Allyn.

Churches of Holyoke—The First Congregational church was organized December 4, 1799, by Rev. Dr. Lathrop of West Springfield.

The First Baptist church was organized October, 1803, as the Second Baptist church of West Springfield, but there had been numerous Baptists in the neighborhood since 1727. In 1792 records show this denomination built a meeting-house. It was later moved to another point and used jointly with the Congregational church; it was completed about 1811. The next church built was in 1826.

The Second Congregational society dates back to 1848 when serv-

ice was held in the school house. A church was formed May, 1849, and Rev. Mr. C. Pierce became pastor and remained until 1851. An edifice was erected in 1852.

The Second Baptist church was organized June 27, 1849, with Rev. Asahel Chapin as pastor. The society used Chapin Hall until 1855, when it moved to its own building, which was not dedicated until 1859. In 1863 the church was burned, but in 1865 another building was dedicated.

The Methodist Episcopal church was organized in 1853 with twenty members; the first pastor was Rev. Thomas March.

St. Paul's Episcopal church was organized in 1863 and services were held in Exchange Hall, High street. The corner-stone for their church was laid in 1866. The church cost $30,000.

The French Roman Catholic church had a church burn in 1875 and seventy-one persons perished in the flames.

The 1925 church directory of this city shows the following list of churches: First Baptist, Second Baptist, First Congregational and Second Congregational, Grace church, Episcopal church, Greek church, Jewish Congregation, Lutheran Evangelical, First Methodist, Highland Methodist, Presbyterian, German Reformed. The Roman Catholic have St. Jerome's, Blessed Sacrament, Sacred Heart, Church of Precious Blood, Church of Our Lady of Rosary, Church of Notre Dame, Immaculate Conception, Church of the Holy Cross, Polish Catholic church. The Unitarians also have a church organized in 1874.

Parish of the Precious Blood—Twenty years ago it was estimated that there were 15,000 people in Holyoke of Canadian birth and the Parish of the Precious Blood was the first French-Canadian organization. It was formed by Father A. B. Dufresne in 1869 and that year he built a frame edifice on Park street. In 1860 forty French people came from Canada to locate at the Lyman Mills. They came in two large wagons, led by Father John St. Onge, who became a noted missionary among the Indians. The first building was burned on a May evening, in 1874, while the church was filled with people. Some lace was blown against a lighted candle and immediately the entire interior was in flames. The panic which ensued caused the loss of seventy-two lives. After this awful calamity a larger and better building was erected and dedicated in 1878 at a cost of $78,000, easily seating 1,100 persons. In 1887 Father Dufresne died and was buried in the churchyard, where to his memory was erected a beautiful monument.

Parish of the Sacred Heart—In 1876 Father Harkins bought land between Maple, Franklin, Chestnut and Sargeant streets, upon which he commenced a church building, the corner stone of which was laid July 4, 1876. Its first pastor was Father Sheehan, who built the rectory. He died in 1880. The parish numbered 2,000 souls. The church was in debt $40,000 and wisely the Bishop sent Rev. P. B. Phelan to become pastor, who cleared the church front debts and dedicated the edifice June 3, 1883. In 1897 a spire was raised over the church edifice and the first chime of bells in the city was provided for the tower.

Holy Rosary Parish—The English-speaking Catholics increased so rapidly that in 1886 there was set off another parish from original St. Jerome, in the eastern part of the city. It was placed under charge of Father M. J. Howard. Only two and a half years after the formation of the parish a fine church was erected and the basement ready to be dedicated and used. Father Howard died in 1888 and Rev. Dr. Thomas D. Beaven of Spencer was called to be pastor of this church, but in October, 1892, the Pope made him Bishop of Springfield.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish—The further immigration of the French-Canadians to Holyoke demanded another parish, which was set off in 1890 in the northern section of the city. The first pastor was Rev. C. E. Brunault. In 1891 a fine large building was erected at the corner of Maple and Prospect streets. A spacious presbytery and other buildings are a part of the property still owned by this congregation. In 1912 the parish school was under the care of eighteen Sisters of the Presentation. It was then being attended by 423 children.

Mater Dolorosa—The Church of the Poles—This church was formed in 1896 with Rev. Anthony M. Sikorski as the first pastor, Father Chalupka of Chicopee having cared for the flock previous to this appointment. The corner-stone of the new church building was laid in 1902 on Maple street. A fine convent was built in 1912 and the school enlarged. At first the Polish people were very poor in Holyoke, but by thrift have become well-to-do for the most part. In the first sixteen years of the history of the parish there were added four thousand souls to this branch of the Catholic Church.

Holy Cross Parish is among the younger Catholic organizations in Holyoke. It was formed February 1, 1905, by districts set off from the parishes of St. Jerome's and Sacred Heart. Rev. John C. Ivers was the first pastor. Holy Cross Chapel was ready for occu-

pancy October 1, 1905. The original membership of 1,500 people had grown by 1912 to be 2,300. The beautiful lawn surrounding this church has ever been a feast to the eye and has been utilized as a play-ground for children many years. On January 1, 1911, the church freed itself from debt. Then $24,000 worth of additional property was purchased from the Water Power Company, which was soon paid for, largely by the free-will offerings of children and young people of the congregation.

St. Patrick's Church of South Hadley Falls is a monument to the worthy labors of Father Harkins, the first mass being said on Christmas Day in a little frame building in that place. There were then but eighteen Catholic families there at that date. The first pastor appointed here was Rev. David F. McGrath July, 1878. The congregation grew and the building was enlarged and beautified. In 1912 the congregation had a membership of 1,100 souls.

St. Jean Baptiste was the first French society organized in Holyoke in 1872. Its founder was Edward Cadieux. There are now numerous French Societies in Holyoke, all prospering.

The Parish of St. Jerome—Anciently the "Third" or "Ireland" parish of the town of West Springfield, Holyoke was early designated thus because of the sixteen-acre grant of certain original land in that section, back in 1684, to John Riley. For many years there were few Catholics in the section above "Riley's Brook." They did not arrive in any considerable number until the beginning of the construction of the Holyoke dam, a fifth of a mile across Connecticut River, in the late forties. The history of Catholic institutions of Holyoke really begins with the meeting of a group of faithful pioneers under a spreading tree on Elm street, with Father Bartholomew O'Conner, back in 1848; or, when the weather was inclement, at the Nolin home on what is now Bigelow street, with occasional meetings at one of the construction buildings at the dam itself. Catholics had begun coming to Holyoke in large numbers the year before that, until several hundred were ready for church organization. Between these humble beginnings in the open and the early fifties, when the famous "Missionary of Vermont," Father Jeremiah O'Callaghan, arrived to become Holyoke's first resident parish priest, the increasingly numerous Catholics met sometimes in Godet hall (High and Lyman streets), in the old Exchange hall or in the earliest Chestnut street school building. Masses were celebrated by Fathers Strain, Brady, Blenkinsop and others, most of them from the nearest neighbor-parish of Chicopee.

Father O'Callaghan founded the first church in town, and named it for one of the greatest of Catholic saints, the blessed Jerome. Its actual building was begun in 1856. Raising ten thousand dollars "from friends both Catholic and Protestant throughout the valley," and adding more than this sum as his own personal contribution to the parish of his adoption, the church was finished in 1860, the year before Father O'Callaghan's death.

The church building, which has been greatly admired, was designed by Architect Keeley. It was built by Captain Mack of Chicopee, John Delaney, long one of the trustees of the parish, being responsible for the massive masonry. During the pastorate of the successor of Father O'Callaghan, Rev. Fr. James Sullivan, the cemetery of St. Jerome's in the Oakdale district was established. Up to that time the Catholic dead of Holyoke were buried in Chicopee.

Then followed the splendid, laborious, fruitful, 44-year pastorate of a man of tireless energy and invincible courage, sent by Archbishop Williams of Boston, the eloquent Rev. Fr. Patrick J. Harkins. He gave himself, unsparingly, to the interests of Holyoke's Catholic community. Father Harkins left an unparalleled record for good works, and many substantial monuments to the faith, wisely founded and successfully maintained. In 1868 he started the first parochial school for girls, opened under the care of the Sisters of Notre Dame, where hundreds of girls are cared for, and the first parochial schools for boys in the diocese, opened in 1872, and under the special care of the Sisters of Providence.

He induced the latter, after they had become firmly established in Holyoke, to open charitable institutions in South Hadley, a hospital in Holyoke, and the celebrated Orphans' Home at Ingleside, called the "Brightside Home." This latter actually made the nucleus for the magnificent group of beneficent institutions in South Holyoke known as the Beaven-Kelley Home, like the famed "City, set upon a hill, that cannot be hid."

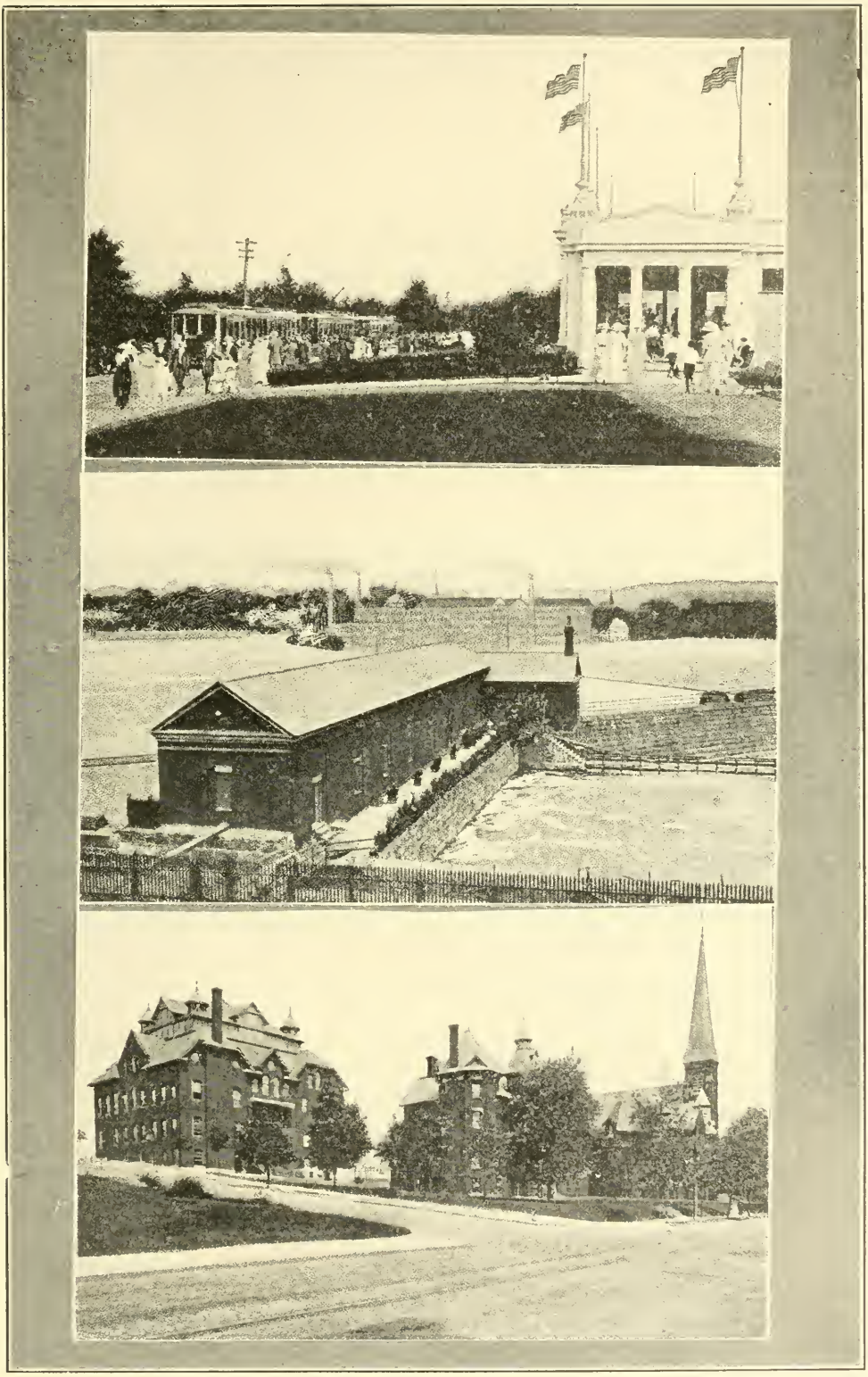
Not many of the very early Catholics of Holyoke—from the very beginning resolving that some day their children's children, at least, should stand among the foremost in good works—lived to see the wonderful fruition of Father Harkins' labors in all these different directions. The whole community rejoiced when, as a slight reward for the diligent activities of this earnest Catholic congregation and for the personal toil and financial assistance given by this loyal and eloquent servant of God to St. Jerome's, Pope Pius 10, in 1904,

made Father Harkins a Domestic Prelate with the title of Prothonotary Apostolic.

For six years after that Monsignor Harkins lived to witness the rapid growth of his great charities and the blossoming of St. Jerome's into a truly wonderful monument to Western Massachusetts Catholicism. He was succeeded by Monsignor Madden, vicar general of the diocese, who proved a powerful factor in the development of St. Jerome's. The history of the parish would be incomplete without mention of the great work of priests like the gifted Father Bernard J. Conaty; and by such curates as Rev. John C. Ivers, LL.D., now rector of Holyoke's youngest Catholic parish, whose center is the Church of the Holy Cross, at Dwight and Appleton streets. Other assisting pastors of St. Jerome's whose untiring zeal cannot be forgotten were Rev. Fathers P. B. Phelan, Rev. Michael Curran, Rev. Austin O'Malley, Rev. Thomas B. Cunningham, Rev. George Fitzgerald, Rev. R. F. Walsh, Rev. Stephen Hallisey, Rev. J. J. Donnelly, Rev. Thomas Smythe, Rev. John R. Murphy, Rev. Walter Hogan. Of the pastorate of the present incumbent, the Rev. Father John F. Fagan, P.R., more extended mention is elsewhere made.

Out from St. Jerome's have grown many powerful influences for good. Among the earliest and most noted of these may be mentioned a small boy assistant in the service of the masses for Father O'Callaghan, in the middle of the past century; an ardent son of the Church who grew to be one of the most revered prelates of the far west—Monsignor John Boulet of the State of Washington, famous as the great Catholic missionary to the Tacoma Indians.

Extraordinary in the scope and activity are the numerous and far reaching organizations growing out of the parish of St. Jerome's. These include the Rosary Society, the Sodality of the Blessed Virgin, the "F. A. M. B. & L. Society," the League of the Sacred Heart, and a wonderfully flourishing "Society of the Holy N me"—a grouping of many hundred men of the parish, organized under the inspiring leadership of one of the most zealous of the many eloquent assistant pastors of St. Jerome, the Rev. Father John A. Broderick. The offspring of St. Jerome, the Catholic interests of Holyoke, now grown into more than fifty thousand, are conserved by ten other parishes, with eight other schools under their auspices, besides four convents. The spiritual needs of these communicants are administered by the present rector of St. Jerome's; and there are



HOLYOKE

PAVILION, MOUNTAIN PARK

GATE HOUSE TO MILLION DOLLAR DAM

SACRED HEART CHURCH

6,000 scholars in the educational institutions under immediate care of this vigorous and model parish.

A Catholic survey of the work in and near Holyoke compiled in 1912 gives these facts: "There are at present 40,000 Catholics in Holyoke. They are distributed among eight parishes. In four of these parishes the English language is spoken, in three French, and in one Polish. Eight parochial schools are attended by over 5,000 children. Catholic life in Holyoke has given birth to a great number of fraternal and benevolent organizations."

Lodges—Mount Tom Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, at Holyoke, was the first attempt to introduce this ancient and honorable fraternity in the place. The date of instituting this lodge of Free Masons was April 5, 1850. Its organization began with seven charter members. S. K. Hutchinson was the first Worshipful Master. In a fire on August 18, 1852, the lodge lost everything it owned save its charter.

The Royal Arch Chapter was organized in Holyoke in 1865. With the passing years great growth has come to the Masonic order in this community. In 1924-25 directors show the Masonic order had Mount Tom Lodge, William Whiting Lodge, Mount Holyoke Chapter; Holyoke Council and Robert Morris Chapter.

Odd Fellows Lodges—Holyoke Lodge of this order, No. 134, I. O. O. F., was organized September 27, 1849, by Samuel Wells of Northampton. The order has grown with the city in general and today there are Independent Order of Odd Fellows interests there as follows: Holyoke Lodge No. 134 and Oak Lodge No. 163; also Glenwood Lodge of Rebekah No. 104 and Oak Leaf Rebekah No. 191; also Encampment No. 30, all in a flourishing condition.

The Knights of Pythias—This fraternity was established at Holyoke March 17, 1780. The first Chancellor Commander was John H. Clifford. In 1880 this was accounted one of the strongest K. of P. Lodges in Massachusetts. There are now two well managed lodges of the order in Holyoke—Cabot Lodge No. 146 and Connecticut Valley Lodge No. 28.

One of the enterprising, modern-fashioned orders of the city is Lodge No. 902, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, founded in 1904.

Other civic societies are the Foresters, Red Men, Ancient Order of Hibernians and Catholic Order of Foresters.

Schools—For almost a century and one-half the common school

has been an institution occupying the present territory of the city of Holyoke. Wherever a few farmers or fishermen had cast their lot, they soon bethought themselves to provide schools for the education of their children. One of these school buildings was near the northeast corner of the town, over the mountain; one on West Street, near where later was built a better structure; another somewhere south of Craft's tavern, on the opposite side of Northampton street; one was where now stands the Inglewood station platform; another at the south of Ashley's Pond, and still another south of Dwight street. In the last named, Chester W. Chapin taught school fifty-six years. These were neighborhood affairs, some having a small number of pupils and some larger. These schools were bravely supported by a few who had children and at the same time had a thirst for knowledge themselves.

In 1808 what was styled the "Seminary" was built. It was a two-story frame structure 35 by 40 feet in size. The original proprietors were Rev. Thomas Rand, Deacon Hitchcock, and Caleb Humeston. Later it was called "Gramwell's School," under William Gramwell. At the time the town of Holyoke was organized there were nine districts; twenty teachers—six men and fourteen women; 537 students of school age. The town then only appropriated $1,800 a year. This had increased by 1874 to $25,000, when the town incorporated.

With passing years the interest has increased and the schools have increased in numbers and usefulness. The present mayor of the city, in his last annual address, spoke as follows: "The school situation will be one of the most serious and important questions which should be studied by everyone. I trust that we will give such thought to these matters that when the time comes to act we will do so with a knowledge of the problem and an understanding of the desire of the people that will guide us in the right direction and bring about a benefit to the city."

The present school board is as follows: Nathan P. Avery, John S. Begley—at-large—James J. Dowd, Alfred F. Cousineau, August H. Baush, George J. Fitzgerald, Daniel E. Riley, John J. Bresnahan, William J. Powers, M. D. The chairman is James J. Dowd; superintendent—William R. Peck. The enrollment has increased wonderfully in the last five years. Total for public schools membership is 7,944; private schools enrollment 5,926. During 1924 there was expended for school purposes $707,582.

The following is a complete list of the various schools of Holyoke

at the present date: High, Continuation, Elm Street, Elmwood, Hamilton Street, Highland, Ingleside, Joseph Metcalf, Kirtland, Lawrence, Morgan, Nonotuck Street, Park Street, Sargent Street, South Chestnut Street, Springdale, West Street, West Holyoke, William Whiting, Day Vocational.

Religious schools of the place in 1925 are: Evangelical Lutheran (German); Immaculate Conception; Mater Dolorosa Parochial; Notre Dame; Precious Blood; Rosary Parochial School; Sacred Heart Parochial; School of Immaculate Conception of Notre Dame De Lourdes; St. Jerome's Institute, and St. Jerome's School for Girls.

The most of the school buildings are beautiful temples of learning. More room is needed and soon other buildings must needs be erected to keep pace with the growth of the city.

Newspapers—Holyoke's first newspaper was a weekly known as the "Hampden Freeman," first issued September 1, 1849, and the present-day "Transcript" is its full-grown heir. The proprietor at its founding was the firm of William F. Morgan and James D. G. Henderson. Its first editorial writer was the then young attorney, W. B. C. Pearsons, who became the first mayor of the city when it was incorporated, and was also for many years police judge of Holyoke. It was then published in what was styled Ireland Parish (now Holyoke). Following this paper came the "Weekly Mirror," by Myron C. Pratt, who closed up his office July 13, 1861, and entered the Union army as a member of that famous regiment, the Massachusetts Tenth. The office was again opened by the Albee Brothers, who sold in 1863 to Burt & Lyman of Springfield. Mr. Burt later conducted "Among the Clouds," published from the summit of Mount Holyoke. About that date the "Mirror" changed to the "Transcript." Numerous changes then followed in the management of the "Transcript," and finally Loomis & Dwight owned it many years, after which Mr. Loomis withdrew in 1888 and W. G. Dwight continued on aided by his accomplished wife, and they are still at the helm in 1925.

Many styles of printing presses have been in commission in this office until they purchased the Sextuple-Goss high-speed press, capable of printing from four to forty-eight pages by a 75-horse power electric motor. In all that is modern and excellent the "Transcript" affords the best. The editorial columns have ever stood for definite, positive purposes in the community.

Other newspaper of Holyoke now (1925) being published are: The "Staatszeitung," a weekly; the "Star," a Polish paper; the "Holyoke Saturday Democrat"; the "Daily Telegram." There are also numerous trade journals.

The "Holyoke News" was founded in 1878 by Hon. W. H. Phillips, as an independent political organ. The list of old papers here includes "Hampden Freeman," established in 1849, and later became the "Mirror," The "New City Weekly Times," started in 1849, by J. F. Downing, The "Independent," by E. G. Plaisted & Company in 1854, of short duration.

The City Library—Three years before Holyoke was incorporated, and in 1870, the public library was established when the place had 10,000 population. J. C. Parsons, treasurer of the Parsons Paper Co., offered to furnish a lot and library building worth $20,000, providing the citizens would raise sufficient amount to purchase the necessary books. The canvass was made, but failed to raise the needed money, but they went ahead and laid plans, and April 20, 1870, the library was incorporated by John E. Chase and Edwin Chase. The first officers were William Whiting, president; Edwin Chase, John E. Chase, and George C. Ewing, vice-presidents; W. B. C. Pearsons and J. S. Webber, William Grover, J. S. McElwain and W. S. Loomis, directors. The total amount raised by the first subscription was $1,989. The town voted $1,500, to which was later added by the town $1,000 more, and the Parsons Paper Co. donated $500. The town was asked to provide a home for the newborn library. The first gift of books was when 1,200 volumes were donated by the Lyman Mills, the Hadley Company, the Hampden Mills and the Y. M. C. A., as well as $500 from the Parsons Power Co.

The first home of the library was at the Appleton street school building. In 1876 it was moved to the City Hall, where it remained twenty-five years. For the first fifteen years one dollar a year was required from all who became patrons of the library; since then it has been free to all the people. Miss Sarah Ely was librarian for thirty years, aided by Miss Lizzie Perry and Mrs. E. A. Whiting.

Something was in store for this institution, for in 1897 the Holyoke Power Company offered the gift of a full city block, bounded by Maple street, Essex, Chestnut and Cabott, if the people would buy the needed books and erect a library building. The burden fell on Henry A. Chase and through his efforts $95,000 was

HOLYOKE

SUMMIT HOUSE MOUNT TOM—MT. HOLYOKE FROM CONNECTICUT RIVER
PAVILION, MOUNTAIN PARK, MT. TOM

raised—the first two subscriptions being for $10,000 each by William Whiting and William Skinner. The building was erected as seen today. It was first occupied in February, 1902. It is a perfectly modern library building and an ornament to the city.

Their 1925 report shows the total number of books on hand to be 62,961. Number newspapers received daily, fourteen. The officers are: W. F. Whiting, president; J. A. Skinner, E. P. Bagg and T. D. O'Brien, vice-presidents; F. G. Wilcox, secretary and librarian; N. P. Avery, treasurer.

Banking of Holyoke—The pioneer banking house of Holyoke was the Hadley Falls Bank, organized May 24, 1851, twenty-three years prior to the organization of the city. Its first capital was $100,000, which two years later was increased to $200,000. The first officers included C. B. Rising, president, and J. R. Warriner, cashier. It was made a national bank April 3, 1865. It became the Hadley Falls Trust Company in 1917 and now has banking rooms at the corner of Main and Dwight streets and in the Y. M. C. A. building on High street. Its present total resources in all departments is $15,139,915.29. Its commercial department has resources and liabilities of $6,491,895; savings department, $4,077,201; trust department, $4,570,818. Its capital is now $500,000, with surplus of $350,000. Present officers are: Joseph A. Skinner, president; F. F. Partridge, Edward P. Bagg, H. J. Bardwell, vice-presidents; Irving S. Pulcifer, treasurer and trust officer. The board of directors number twenty responsible persons.

The Holyoke National Bank was organized in 1872, with a $200,000 capital; its first officers were: William Whiting, president; F. S. Bacon, cashier. Their June, 1925, statement published shows resources and liabilities amounting to $9,120,625.14. Total time deposits $5,883,924. The present cashier is Thomas A. Judge.

The Holyoke Savings Bank was incorporated in February, 1855, with Gustavius Snow as first treasurer. The first deposit was made in this bank May 1, 1855, by Henry F. Quint. The statement issued June 30, 1925, shows assets and liabilities amounting to $13,150,038. The present officers are: C. C. Jenks, president; vice-presidents—W. A. Prentiss, H. O. Hastings and C. B. Sampson; treasurer—Louis S. Ayen; secretary—P. M. Marrs.

The Mechanics Savings Bank was incorporated in 1872. The first president was James H. Newton; C. B. Prescott, treasurer; E. W. Chapin, secretary. The present officers include: Henry E.

Gaylord, president; I. E. Sawyer, treasurer; N. P. Avery, clerk. In June this year their statement gave as their resources and liabilities, $6,895,966.

The Park National Bank was organized in 1892. Its present officers are S. A. Mahoney, president; George A. Munn, vice-president; John M. Henderson, cashier. Directors are seven in number. The condition of this concern June 30, 1925, as shown by their statement, was resources and liabilities $2,110,323. The deposits on the date above mentioned were $1,767,526.

City National Bank—This institution was organized in 1879 and at the close of business on June 30, 1925, the resources and liabilities were $5,725,516. The present officers are: C. Fayette Smith, president; Leonard L. Titus, cashier; Charles W. Embury, assistant cashier. The board of directors is composed as follows: John S. McElwain, C. Fayette Smith, Henry E. Gaylord, William A. Prentiss, George W. Lewis, Edward N. White, Leonard L. Titus, Robert E. Barrett, George F. Fowler.

City Co-operative Bank was organized in 1889, and in its thirty-sixth annual statement it states that the dividend on all shares is five per cent. The officers are: Daniel Proulx, president; O. O. Lamontagne, vice-president; Pierre Bonvouloir, treasurer and clerk. This concern has excellent banking rooms in the City National Bank Building, High and Appleton streets. On the date above named this concern had resources and liabilities amounting to $1,203,411.49. A large board to oversee the affairs of the institution is made up from some of the best men in the city of Holyoke.

People's Savings Bank—This was organized in 1885 and its present home is at 314 High street. Its present officers are as follows: H. J. Frink, president; J. N. Hubbard, C. H. Taber, P. M. Judd, vice-presidents; George S. Nesbitt, treasurer; John Hildreth, clerk. There is a board of eighteen members of representative men of Holyoke and community. On May 12, 1925, this bank had 11,703 depositors. Its liabilities and assets were $9,320,681.

The Morris Plan Company, at Holyoke, was organized November 24, 1915. It is located at 279 Maple street. Its capital is $60,000. Its resources and liabilities are $484,094.11. Its undivided profits are $38,756. Its loans now amount to $475,000. The present officers are Addison L. Green, president; Frank B. Towne, vice-president; Frederick S. Webber, treasurer and clerk. Sixteen persons constitute the present board of directors. The best business factors in the city aided in organizing this "Morris Plan" in Holyoke.

It allows trustworthy men to borrow money at low interest rates, so that borrowing from "loan sharks" is unnecessary. No chattel mortgages or assignments of wages are required.

The Paper Industry of Holyoke and Vicinity—The first company formed for the manufacture of paper in Holyoke was the Parsons Paper Company, its treasurer and agent being J. C. Parsons, who had been engaged in similar business at Northampton with the Ames Paper Company. A dam was built and a paper factory erected in 1853. In 1879 their books showed that 175 men were constantly employed; eight and one-half tons of paper were being produced daily. Aaron Bagg was president of the company, with J. C. Parsons as treasurer and agent, and J. S. McElwain secretary. The Massachusetts directory shows for 1924-25 that this concern had for its president Edward P. Bagg. The plant is producing bond and ledger papers. The men employed are 250; capital stock, $180,000 (common stock, $200,000).

The greatest of all paper industries in Holyoke and vicinity is the American Writing Paper Company, with its branches as follows: Albion Paper Company, Holyoke; Beebe Holbrook Company; Mount Tom Paper Company; Holyoke Paper Company; Norman Paper Company; Riverside Paper Company; and other factories in the valley. These plants have been absorbed by the American Writing Paper Company from time to time. It has branches also at South Lee, Mittineague and Huntington. S. L. Wilson is president. The present products are various grades of paper. Capital invested $22,000,000.00; number of persons employed, 4,000. A trade journal more than a decade ago wrote of this great paper plant as follows:

"Holyoke makes and sends forth products which eventually are used in the four quarters of the globe. The message of the high quality goods made in Holyoke is voiced in all national advertising mediums that reach over two million business men monthly. And from Asia, Africa, Australia, Europe, South America and Mexico the products of the American Writing Paper Company bring back only the highest of praise—of this Holyoke is justly proud. The Japanese merchant in far off Tokio—the business man of Cape Town—the London banker—and the 'New Yorker' can identify the products by the one universal trade-mark. These products include writing papers, bonds, linens, ledgers, etc., that bear the water-mark of the 'Eagle and the A.' And the voice comes from Holyoke, Massachusetts—'The Paper City'—where they make pa-

pers that are the standard by which all others are judged. Wherever the article of paper is known for its quality, there the well-known trade-mark of the 'American Writing Company's' paper is known."

The Crocker-McElwain Company, one of the more recent incorporations, was started in 1904, on a capital of $600,000. A dozen years ago this plant employed three hundred skilled workmen. They make fine bonds, papers for ledgers, card indexes, etc. Clifton A. Crocker and Franklin McElwain, president and vice-president, respectively, were the founders of this great plant. The product is fine writing papers; capital, $1,750,000; men employed, 625.

The Franklin Paper Company has for its president and treasurer James M. Ramage. Here Bristol board is made in large quantities. The capital stock is now $50,000; number of hands employed, 60. These mills were established in 1866.

Hampden Glazed Paper Company produces paper and card stock. The president is George F. Fowler. Their product is mostly coated paper and cardboard. Capital stock, $56,000; number employed, 200.

The American Tissue Mills are located at South Hadley, Centre, Holyoke, North Amherst. The president is B. F. Perkins. The products of this factory are crepe, wax and tissue papers. Capital stock, $500,000; common stock is $600,000. Number of persons employed as workmen, 600.

The Chemical Paper Manufacturing Company has for its president Clifton A. Crocker. The capital stock is now $2,050,000. Number of men employed, 335.

The Collins Manufacturing Company, with its factory at North Wilbraham, has Samuel R. Whiting as its president. They make high grade paper. The present capital stock is $300,000 and the number of men employed is 350.

The present Newton Paper Company, with Henry L. Russell as president, makes building paper on a capital of $72,000 and the number of men employed is one hundred.

The Perfect Safety Paper Company has for its president and treasurer J. B. Weis. They produce safety paper for bank checks, etc. Capital is now $160,000; men employed, 25.

The Valley Paper Company at Holyoke was organized and the plant erected in 1864. Originally, it was under the head of David M. Butterfield. They first made fine writing paper stock and envelope paper. From two to three tons per day was their first out-

put. In 1880 Broughton Alvord was president of the company and J. C. Parsons was agent, with J. S. McElhaney as secretary. At the present the president is H. E. Gaylord. This mill makes superior bond and ledger paper. The capital stock is $200,000.

The Whitimore Paper Company (Manufacturing Company), with R. A. White as president, works on a $75,000 capital, with the employment of 75 men.

The Crane Paper Company has a branch at Holyoke known as "No. 71."

The Carew Manufacturing Company, at South Hadley Falls, has for its president, W. D. Judd. They make writing paper exclusively. The capital stock is $35,000, and 170 persons are employed in the business at this time.

The Hampshire Paper Company, of South Hadley, with S. B. Griffin as its president, makes bond paper and operates under a capital of $200,000, working 140 men.

Nearly half a century ago, an account of the paper industry in this section of the State gave the following facts concerning other paper factories: The Whiting Paper Company was established in 1865 on a capital of $100,000, but in 1879 it had reached $1,200,000. It was then the second largest paper mill in the world—one at Aberdeen, Scotland, being larger. William Whiting organized these mills at the close of the Civil War period. Addition after addition had to be made to keep pace with the demand for the paper products here turned out. In 1880 there were 500 persons employed in this mill.

The Holyoke Paper Company was organized in 1857 with a daily capacity of only one ton of finished paper. D. M. Butterfield was agent. Finally the buildings covered an acre, and in 1878 there were being made ten tons of paper daily—mostly fine linen and parchments.

Hadley Falls Paper Company was organized as an off-shoot of the Carew Manufacturing Company. Their product for years was manilla paper—4,000 pounds daily.

The Crocker Manufacturing Company was established and a mill built in 1870 by D. H. and J. C. Newton. At first it made only paper suitable for the making of men's paper collars and shirt fronts. The Crocker Company upon a capital of $60,000 organized the business and in 1878 the old Albion Mills were purchased. Capital in 1880 was $90,000. They made colored and ornamental papers to the amount of four tons daily.

Other old paper mill interests have been: Holyoke Manilla Mills, 1875; Excelsior Mills, 1872; Riverside Mills, 1866; Connecticut River Pulp Mills; Union Paper Manufacturing Company, 1870; Massasoit Paper Company, on a $300,000 capital, was doing a thriving business in 1880.

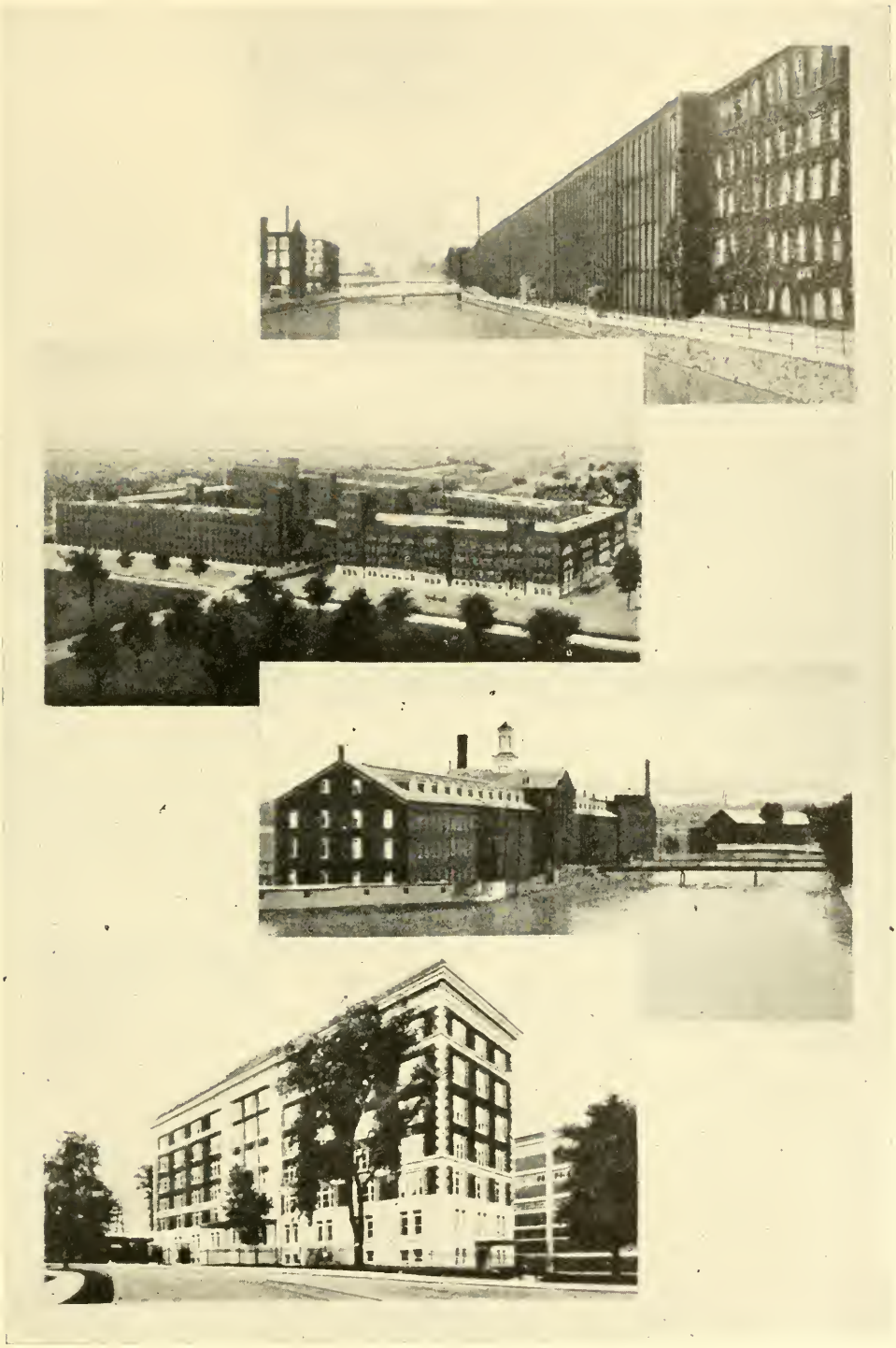
The Westfield River Paper Company, situated at Russell, with A. H. Chapin as president, with a capital of $650,000, employed eighty men and produced Glassine paper in immense quantities.

The Chapin Gould Paper Company built the factory at Huntington.

The Strathmore Paper Company at Mittineague with its factory plant at Russell has for its president H. A. Moses. Its product is plain paper. The number of employes is now about 700.

The Springfield Glazed Paper Company, with its plant at West Springfield, was first located on Lyman street in the eighties, but was burned down and relocated where it now stands. The product is glazed and enameled paper. Capital is $200,000. Seventy men are usually employed. The capacity of this plant is that produced by ten machines used for surfacing and coating the paper.

Thread and Allied Industries—But few persons who have occasion (and who has not?) to use a needle and thread, stop to think of the many movements given a tuft of cotton by hands and by intricate machinery before the fine twisted soft finished thread is unwound from the pretty white spool found in almost every store in the land. Thread is among the leading industries, aside from paper, found in Holyoke. Its manufacture was first started by the Merrick Thread Company in July, 1865. It was the outgrowth of a partnership of Timothy Merrick, Austin Merrick, and Origen Hall as partners of the first-name of Merrick Bros. & Co., located at Mansfield, Connecticut. The business prospered there, but on account of better water-power facilities, etc., the factory was removed to Springfield in 1864. Here a new six-cord was produced in place of the three-cord formerly used. The use of the sewing machine really revolutionized the manufacture of thread from cotton, as well as silk. President Elisha Johnson, of Connecticut, with other men, organized a new company in 1865. It was first styled the Holyoke Thread Company, but soon changed to the Merrick Thread Company. Its capital was $200,000. Three large buildings were erected for the manufacture of spool cotton. Power was leased from the Holyoke Water-power Company.



UPPER CANAL AND SKINNER'S SILK MILLS—HOLYOKE
HENDEE MANUFACTURING COMPANY—SPRINGFIELD
HADLEY THREAD MILL AND VALLEY PAPER MILLS—HOLYOKE
FISK RUBBER COMPANY OFFICE BUILDING—CHICOPEE FALLS

The Hadley Spool-Cotton Manufactory was organized in 1863 with a capital of $600,000. It was established by a few men of capital in the eastern part of Massachusetts. This company owned fourteen acres of land and had many tenements upon the same in which lived their workers. In 1878 the company had six large blocks, containing fifty-three tenements. George W. Lyman was the first president of the company. The total number of spindles in this plant in 1880 was 29,664.

With time, the thread business has materially changed, and is now largely in the hands of the American Thread Company, of which the thread mills at Holyoke are a part. This concern took over most of the former thread interests of the place years ago. Its machinery is the best known to man. It only uses the finest of cotton. Among the brands so well known today are: "Merrick," "Hardley," "Alex King," "Barstow," and "Warren." Holyoke division of the Corporation has three large plants in operation, and employs upon an average 2,000 men and women—about ninety per cent women. The product goes to all parts of the country, and to foreign lands. One must needs go through these spacious factories, when they are at work, to gain any good idea of what thread-making consists.

Holyoke Card & Paper Company was organized in Holyoke, Massachusetts, in 1879 as the Holyoke Glazed Paper Works, their product being glazed and plated papers. The company suffered a fire loss after a few years, and then located in Brightwood, a suburb of Springfield, and were incorporated in 1884 as the Holyoke Card & Paper Company.

W. M. Morrill was the first president of the company, and served as such until April, 1888, when he was succeeded by Mr. E. F. Strickland, serving until his death in 1890. In 1887 Franklin Pierce and E. T. Pierce connected themselves with the company, coming from Nassau, New Hampshire, where they were active in the management of the Nashua Card & Glazed Paper Company. Franklin Pierce was elected president in 1890, serving until 1903, and was succeeded by E. T. Pierce from 1903 until the time of his death in 1904.

G. Frank Merriam, having been with the company since 1886 and having served as its secretary since 1889, was unanimously chosen president in 1904, the position he now holds.

Henry H. Bowman, president of the Springfield National Bank, has been its treasurer from the organization of the company.

The present officers of the company are: President, G. Frank Merriam; treasurer, Henry H. Bowman; assistant treasurer, John B. Van Horn; secretary, Arthur L. Janes; directors: G. Frank Merriam, Henry H. Bowman, Ralph W. Ellis, Frederick H. Stebbins, Arthur L. Janes, Ralph P. Alden, John B. Van Horn.

The principal products manufactured are cardboard and surface coated papers, photograph mounts, fancy cover papers, fancy box papers, and coated specialties, also glazed and plated papers. The present capital is $300,000, and the plant consists of two main buildings 55x225 feet in extent, three stories and basement. It is situated on the main line of the Boston & Maine Railroad with spur tracks, enabling the company to receive and discharge all freight at its doors.

The Farr Alpaca Company—This is beyond question among the largest textile industries in Holyoke. A dozen years ago it employed 3,000 men and women. It was established in 1874, with Jared Beebe as its president; H. M. Farr, its treasurer; directors—Jared Beebe, J. C. Parsons, H. M. Farr, Andrew Allyn, Joseph Metcalf, George Randall, and Timothy Merrick. At the Centennial in 1876, at Philadelphia, this company was awarded the first prizes on black alpaca, mohair, cashmeres and serges, all of superior manufacture, regular in quality, evenly spun and woven of permanent colors and beautiful finish. This was the first company in the United States to manufacture all-wool cashmere and henrietta cloths. They had to compete with Bradford, England, mills.

In 1912 this great plant turned out fifty-one miles of cloth per day, equal to 16,000 miles per year. Over 6,000,000 pounds of wool are consumed annually by this factory. The works are divided into three departments—manufacturing, cotton division and finishing department. When running full capacity, these mills employ 3,500 men and women. Forty per cent are women. Alpacas, mohairs and fine worsteds are produced here. Steam, water and electric power are all three utilized in running the several plants at Holyoke. The capital stock is now $14,000,000.

The Germania Woolen Mills is another pioneer factory of Holyoke. It was established away back in 1865, and now produces immense amounts of worsteds annually. It employs from seven to eight hundred men and women.

The William Skinner & Sons Silk Manufactury is the largest silk-lining factory in the world today. It was established here in 1848 and "Skinner Satin" is seen on the margin of goods the world

round. Its productions are staple and dependable. This plant must be seen within, in order to fully appreciate its vastness.

Another silk works is the Goetz Company on Summer street, and there is also a silk hosiery factory's office on Sargeant street.

The great cotton factory is the Lyman, whose office is on Front street. They make heavy domestics, etc. This company was organized in 1854. Standard sheetings have ever been their aim. There are three separate plants of the industry in Holyoke. In early days they made a variety of white goods besides sheetings. Forty years ago they employed twelve hundred men and women. Eight hundred were male.

Other industries of Holyoke include the great paper industry, elsewhere treated at length; also the Springfield Blanket Company incorporated in 1919, on a $400,000 capital, with E. H. Wilkinson, president.

Holyoke Water Power Company—The beginning of almost every town or city in the country owes its start to some one or more natural resource. In this instance, the first railroad constructed through the place came to be accepted as the leading means of transportation. It is also shown that the men interested in the early development of the immense water-power at this point were also interested in the development of the Boston & Albany railroad. Such men as James Goodwin of Hartford and Chester W. Chapin of Springfield, who had been interested in other means of transportation, saw the coming of railroad domination in the field of transportation and hence turned their attention towards the railway interests. Before that time Holyoke was simply a farming community with this as its commercial center. The real start toward true development here dated from 1847, when the channel of the river was measured for the purpose of building a dam, and this in the belief that thirty thousand horse-power could be obtained. These early promoters of this water privilege had in mind chiefly the manufacture of cotton goods. Paper-making, as an industry, was still in its infancy.

The first steps in negotiating for this property, where a large part of present Holyoke stands, began late in the autumn of 1846. George C. Ewing, of the firm of Fairbanks & Co., of New York, had charge of the interests. The transfer of the first property, comprising about thirty-seven acres, was effected in March, the following year. The first company incorporated included Fair-

banks & Co., of which Mr. Ewing was a member, with a number of capitalists from Hartford and Boston. It started out with a capital fixed at four million dollars, with Mr. Ewing as agent, and J. K. Mills, of Boston, was elected treasurer, while the civil engineers were John Chase, of Chicopee, and Philander Anderson. The property soon passed into the hands of Messrs. Thomas H. Perkins, George W. Lyman and Edmund Dwight, who were incorporated into the Hadley Falls Company. A dam was built and provided with canals and locks, one on the South Hadley side being opened for the passage of boats for many years. The new company also purchased 1,100 acres of land. The first dam was completed November 19, 1848, but it was not a success or a triumph in engineering skill. When filled to its capacity the mill-dam was not to be trifled with—it burst its bonds and the entire structure was swept away. A new dam was completed October 22, 1849, and having been built stronger was a success from the first. It was one-fifth of a mile long and contained 4,000,000 feet of sawed timber of large sizes. Concrete and gravel were used to protect the dam. In 1868, after the Hadley Falls Company had turned all of their rights over to the "Holyoke Water Power Company," further extensive improvements were made to the original dam. This work was finished in 1870 at a cost of $263,000.

The task of undertaking to describe the several canals connected with this city is indeed out of the question in this connection. The great water courses are in the heart of the city and will ever remain a part of the wealth of the place. To graphically describe such objects in a printed volume would appear as unwise as to describe Niagara Falls in a history of the country in which they are located. The eye must needs see these objects in order to convey any adequate idea of their vastness. The tremendous water-power at Holyoke is the base of all the varied manufacturing industries already described in this work.

In the early days of this water-power, the annual rental per mill-power was fixed at 260 ounces of silver fineness of the coinage of 1859, or about $300 a year.

The Hadley Falls Company failed in 1857 and the entire property with the 1,100 acres of land and all improvements was sold to Alfred Smith, of Hartford, for $325,000. The Holyoke Water Power Company was incorporated January, 1859, with a capital of $350,000. Alfred Smith was elected president and Benjamin Day treasurer.

One of the famous departments of this company is the "testing

flume," the largest testing flume in the world. The testing of water wheels was before done to obtain data as to the amount of water used in different heads. These tests at length permitted the Holyoke Water Power Company to determine, from facts in its possession, the amount of water consumed of almost any water wheel, under any head, and at almost any gate. The first testing flume was located near the Whiting Paper Company. The tests were originally under the direction of James Emerson of Willimansett. In the eighties Clemens Herschel assumed charge, when a new testing flume was erected about 1881-82.

Since 1906 the Power Company has furnished the electric lights of Holyoke, the exact date of turning on such current was August 28, 1906. All of the numerous factories in Holyoke and vicinity derive their power from this company. The company has been very liberal in its attitude toward the city and its people. Their municipal gifts began in 1861, when Hampden Park, embracing an area of 115,000 square feet, was donated. Later school grounds were donated by this corporation, and in 1877 Germania Park of 11,000 square feet was given the city. Later came the gifts of Prospect Park and the Crescent and Park street triangle in 1890. But best of all was the gift of the ground on which stands the magnificent public library—114,000 square feet.

"Men may come and men may go," but so long as the waters of the Connecticut flow on toward the sea, the water-power canals of Holyoke will convey propelling force for the hundred and one industries of the city, and thus give employment to thousands upon thousands of men and women throughout the years.

The following have served as officers of the company, with others, whose names are now not recalled: Presidents—Alfred Smith, 1859-60; George M. Bartholomew, 1860-1886; John B. Stebbins, 1886-90; Gideon Wells, 1890-98; James J. Goodwin, March to December, 1898; Charles E. Gross, 1898. The present officers include Robert E. Barrett, president; Albert F. Sickman, clerk. Their products are listed commercially, Water and Electric Power; capital, $1,200,000; number men employed, 190.

Mayors of Holyoke—Since the town of Holyoke became a city in 1874 the following have served as mayor: William B. C. Pearsons, 1874-75-76; Roswell P. Crafts, 1877; William Whiting, 1878-79; William Ruddy, 1880; Franklin P. Goodall, 1881; Roswell P. Crafts, 1882-83; James E. Delaney, 1884-85; James J. O'Connor,

1886-87; James E. Delaney, 1888; J. F. Sullivan, 1889-90; M. J. Griffin, 1891; J. F. Sullivan, 1892; Dennie L. Farr, 1893; M. H. Whitcomb, 1894; Henry A. Chase, 1895; J. J. Curan, 1896; George H. Smith, 1897; Michael Connors, 1898; Arthur B. Chapin, 1899 to 1905; N. P. Avery, 1905 to 1910; John J. White, 1911-12-13; John H. Woods, 1914-15; John J. White, 1916-17; John D. Ryan, 1918-19; John F. Cronin, 1920 to 1925.

Fire Department—The first meeting of the organization for the old "Fire District" was held at the schoolhouse on Chestnut street Christmas Day, 1850, and the warrant was signed by Smith, Day and Chapin, selectmen. Thus it will be observed that, contrary to the general rule, Holyoke did not have a local volunteer company, but from the first was under legally authorized organization and a part of the town government from the start. Insurance underwriters the country over look upon Holyoke as among the best risks of all the municipalities. It has ever been the motto of this place, "The Best Is None Too Good." The first fire company was known as "Mount Tom No. 1." One thousand three hundred dollars were appropriated for the purchase of hose, hooks and ladders. The first engine, "Holyoke No. 1," an old-fashioned hand-engine, was donated to the town. The first year's salary for the fire chief was $20. In 1852 the company had sixty-two members.

The last report of the Fire Department shows that in 1924 the Fire Commissioners were: Arthur E. French, George H. Lane, Ernest J. Nobert. There were 191 less fire alarm calls in 1924 than in the previous year. Total in 1924 was 511. Fire loss was $113,350; insurance paid, $110,938; actual loss, $2,412. Three of the firemen died in 1924—Captain John T. Rohan, Captain Daniel R. Hogan, Francis A. Markey. The salaries of chief engineer is $3,000; first deputy chief, $2,800; district chief, $2,530; secretary, $1,925. Every known modern appliance for fighting fires has been tested and where useful has been purchased by the city. The department now owns 2,200 feet of workable hose. The department is divided into eleven companies. The total number engaged as firemen is 138, including officers. The 1925 officers of the department are: Chief, Patrick J. Hurley; first deputy, Daniel A. McLean; second deputy, Daniel J. Gorman; James E. O'Leary, clerk; Patrick J. Rohan, supervisor of automobiles; Frank A. Shelley, superintendent of engines.

Water Works—The water system in Holyoke town was com-

pleted in 1873 and has always been owned by the corporation. Its source of supply is two natural lakes and storage reservoirs, three and a half miles from the city; two mountain streams and storage reservoirs and the southwest branch of the Manhan river, intake and storage tanks at Southampton and Westhampton. The gravity principle is in use here. The total receipts of the department in 1924 was $273,614; expenditures, $246,709. Present miles of water mains, 103 and three-tenths. The total amount of water consumed in 1924 was two and one-half billion gallons; an average to each person of the city of 113 gallons daily.

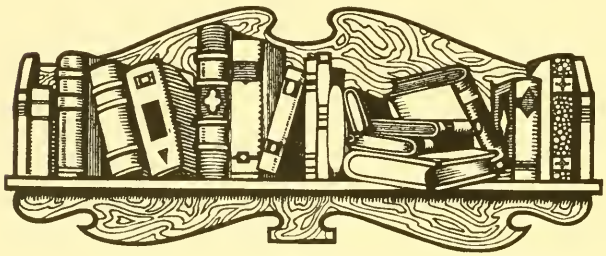
The Water Commissioners in 1924 were: T. J. Carmody, chairman; J. H. Dillon, vice-chairman; Hugh McLean, treasurer; Miss Helen A. Hanley, clerk. The superintendent was Patrick Gear and engineer, Patric J. Lucey.

Police Department—The present police department of the city of Holyoke is well organized and consists of Marshal William D. Nolan; assistant marshal, Timothy Haley; captain, Frank R. Metcalf; lieutenant, William E. Blackmer; sergeants, Dennis Mack, John J. Morarity, Patrick F. Ryan, James T. Donoghue, Patrick J. Goughan; W. J. Doyle, clerk; Ann U. Donoghue, police woman; matron, Mary T. Sullivan. The present police roster shows the names of three hundred policemen, including the three women serving in the force.

Holyoke Up-to-Date Statistics—In an official manual of the City of Holyoke is found the subjoined facts and figures: Place was founded in 1850; incorporated as a city 1873; population, 1920, according to the United States census report, was 60,203; population as determined by an election May 1, 1924, 62,954; number of polls, 17,744; public school enrollment, 7,533; continuation school enrollment, 1,063; parochial and private school enrollment, 5,468. There are park areas amounting to 119 acres; area in school property, 900,266 square feet; area of city, almost 23 square miles; miles in streets and roads, 107.27 miles; miles of streets, 73; sidewalks and crossings, 100.15 miles; water mains, 103 miles; gas mains, 72 miles; sewers, 62 miles; river front, 11 miles; number of tenements, including residences, 14,790; school houses, 35; commercial schools, 2; churches, 22; fire hydrants, 817; tax rate 1924, $23 per thousand dollars; valuation in real estate, $89,057,730; personal, $24,447,060.

City Officers—In 1925 the principal officers of the city included

the following: Mayor—Hon. John F. Cronin; president of the board of aldermen—Joseph F. Griffin; the board consists of twenty-one aldermen—regular and at-large. City clerk is John F. Sheehan; city treasurer—Pierre Bonvouloir; auditor—Daniel W. Kenney; superintendent of schools—William R. Peck; tax collector—James M. Kennedy; marshal—William D. Nolen; school committee—James J. Dowd, chairman, William R. Peck, secretary.



CHAPTER VI

TOWN OF CHICOPEE

Chicopee is an Indian name with numerous spellings by different authors. It is the northwestern town in that portion of Hampden county lying to the east of the Connecticut river. The river separates it from West Springfield. It contains twenty-five square miles. Its streams are mainly the Connecticut and Chicopee rivers. The soil is mostly sandy loam and well adapted to fruit-growing.

The early settlement was effected by Japhet and Henry Chapin, sons of Deacon Samuel Chapin, (of whom, see elsewhere), who settled in Springfield in 1642, where a daughter was born in 1644. These young pioneers purchased a goodly tract of land from John Pynchon, of Springfield, the same all being on the north side of the river of Chicopee. For many years the Indians were very troublesome to the river settlements. The burning of Deerfield in 1704 and of Springfield in 1675 were tragic incidents in the century-long conflict.

At a very early day a settlement was made at what is styled "Skipmuck," a mile and one-half above Chicopee Falls. Among the more prominent men in that section were Stephen Horton, Gad Horton, Phineas Stedman, Ariel Cooley, Dudley Wade and others of record. Many of these from time to time had to take refuge in the fort at Springfield on account of the Indians.

Organization of the Town—The act by which Chicopee was incorporated as a town was dated April 25, 1848. At a meeting held in Cabott Hall, in the village of Chicopee, May 17, 1848, after prayer by Rev. Crawford Nightingale, Timothy W. Carter was chosen moderator and William L. Bemis clerk. The villages of this town are old Chicopee Center, once called Cabotville, Chicopee Falls, and Willimansett.

Churches of Chicopee—The first Congregational church of this place was organized as the Second Church of Springfield, July 30, 1751, and constituted in 1752 with twenty members. The first pastor was Rev. John W. McKinstry, who remained until death in 1813. A meeting-house was completed in 1753. It is recorded that the council agreed to seat the men and women together. The deacons were sons of the pioneers—Benjamin and David Chapin—the

former was a son of Henry and the latter a son of Japhet, and both were 72 years of age.

The second Congregational church of Chicopee Falls was formed July 3, 1850, as the First Congregational Church in Chicopee Factory Village, and at first had only thirty-three members. The first pastor was Rev. Dorus Clark, installed in March, 1835. A church building was erected in 1833 at the corner of Church and Court streets. It was rebuilt in 1859.

The Third Congregational Church of Chicopee was constituted October 16, 1834, by ten male and eight female members. The first pastor was Sumner G. Clapp. The society built a house in which to worship in 1836-37. It was torn down in 1868, and another built in its place.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Chicopee Falls is without any reliable records. It is believed that the first class was formed there in about 1824, and in 1848 had a membership of seventy-five. They erected their first church building about 1827. Before that private houses and the schoolhouse were used. In 1842 they dedicated a second church.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Chicopee was organized August, 1838, with eighteen members. The first house of worship was built on the west side of Perkins Street, in 1839, and was enlarged in 1845.

The Baptist Church and Society of Chicopee Falls was constituted with seventeen members in 1828. Moses Curtis was the first pastor. A church building was erected in 1832 and in 1850 removed to Market street. In 1877 a new building was provided and at that date the membership was 250.

The Central Baptist Church of Chicopee was organized in 1835 under the name of Third Baptist Church of Springfield with twenty-one members.

The Episcopal denomination formed a church known as Grace, in Chicopee, in April, 1846, with eighteen members. Rev. Henry W. Lee was its first rector. The church building was finished in March, 1848, and consecrated in May the same year.

The Universalist Society, Chicopee, was organized in 1835 by thirty-nine members. The first pastor was Charles Spear. A building was erected on the south side of Market Square in 1836. It was built by the Mechanics Association, and subsequently purchased by this society.

The Unitarian Society of Chicopee was formed and legally or-

ganized in March, 1841. The first pastor was Rev. F. A. Whitney. The society built a brick edifice in which to worship in 1842 on the corner of Cabott and Dwight streets.

The Second Adventists had several devotees from a very early date in this community, but no organized church until 1870, when a church was formed at Chicopee Falls, where a building was erected on Maple street.

The Roman Catholic people have a strong following hereabouts, as will be seen by the following: Church of the Holy Name organized 1838, built a church in 1840 and enlarged it in 1848. About 1868 a convent was finished. John Brady was the first pastor.

St. Patrick's Church, Chicopee Falls, was formed in 1872. In 1878 this parish had almost 1,500 individuals.

The French Catholic Church was organized in 1871; they built between Chicopee and Chicopee Falls in 1877-78, at a cost of $15,000.

The churches in these places at this writing (1925) are as follows, as per the church directory recently published:

First Baptist; Beulah Baptist; Central Baptist; Congregational Church of Chicopee Falls; Third Congregational; Grace Episcopal; Greek; The Central Methodist Episcopal; United Presbyterian; Church of Holy Name of Jesus (Catholic); Church of Nativity (Catholic); St. Patrick's (Catholic); Assumption French Catholic; St. George's Roman Catholic; St. Rose de Lima (French Catholic); St. Stanislaus (Polish Catholic); Holy Mothers of the Rosary (Polish National); Unitarian.

Public School System—Little information is obtainable concerning the very earliest schools of this town. Districts Nos. 3 and 5 were organized about 1812, the latter comprising the territory between Indian Orchard on the east and Hog-Pen Dibble Brook on the west, the Chicopee river north, and the Old Morgan House on the south. Skipmuck school building was erected in 1912. In 1825 a brick school building was erected by the manufacturing companies at Chicopee Falls and presented to the district. About 1829 school was housed in district No. 3 on the north side of the river. In 1846 a brick building took its place. In 1870 a better structure was built on Granby street. In 1879 this school had 210 pupils, all having foreign parents. This building cost $12,000.

The finest school building in the town in 1880 was the one erected in 1875-76 on Springfield and Chestnut streets, costing $22,500.

Between 1810-12 a school house was built in the village of Chicopee, facing on South street. Another school building was provided in 1834, built of brick, costing $2,000. In 1842 a large addition was made.

The record shows that in 1849 this town had eight school districts and twenty schools, of which ten were in Chicopee Village; four in District No. 6 at Chicopee Falls.

In 1880 there was a fine high school building in Chicopee Center, on Grape street. Also numerous other department rooms. At Chicopee Falls there was also a good high school building on Chestnut street. Willimansett also had a school then. A large number of Catholic children were withdrawn on account of the establishment of St. Joseph's school.

The present (1925) number of public schools rooms was 151; number of pupils, 6,063; average number pupils to the room, forty. The present number of teachers is 160. Chicopee high school has 24 teachers; 508 pupils, and nine special teachers. Whole number of pupils enrolled in 1923-24 was 6,510.

Then there are private and parochial schools and evening schools. In all that is good and progressive the town of Chicopee has always sought the best. The present school committee is as follows: John P. Sheehan, chairman; Albert F. Crowther, vice-chairman; John J. Desmond, secretary. The cost of transporting students to and from school in 1924 was $9,430—$3,746 by bus line and $5,684 by trolley cars. The cost per pupil for schooling in 1924 was: High school, $140; elementary schools and junior high school, $60.88; vocational schools, $177; evening industrial, $36.98; citizenship school, $7.05.

Police Department—The police court of Chicopee was established in 1855, by virtue of an act approved May 21 of that year. M. D. Whittaker was the first justice to preside over this court. The present police force is as follows: Frank O'Callahan, chief; Alfred T. Caron, Edward Connor, captains; Joseph H. Lamoureaux, lieutenant. There are thirty-seven patrolmen and two sergeants; three patrol drivers. Wages paid the chief is $2,400; lieutenants, $2,300; sergeants, $2,200; patrolmen, $2,100; chauffeurs, $1,900. Four policemen were added last year, and still the number is far too small to do the territory justice, for it contains twenty-five square miles.

The police department in 1924 collected fines in court $9,687; at House of Correction fines amounting to $305; sale of automobile, $200; sale of motorcycles, $105.

CHICOPEE

CHICOPEE HIGH SCHOOL

MEMORIAL MONUMENT

THE COMMON

OUR LADY OF ELMS ACADEMY

Fire Department—The fire district of Chicopee was formed of that part of School District No. 4 lying south of Chicopee river. The date of its organization was August 28, 1848. An engine had been purchased several years earlier, its cost being $500. The building in which it was housed cost $200. Soon three cisterns were constructed; an engine house two stories high was erected, costing $1,500. The Cabot Manufacturing Company donated the land on which it was built. One account, which dates to 1879, says "we have eight reservoirs, twenty-eight hydrants and seventy-five lamp-posts and lanterns." These facts all refer to Chicopee while yet a "town." The first fire department at Chicopee Falls was established in 1845 and its bounds were coextensive with School District No. 16. Each manufacturing plant had its own tanks and water supply. The list of engineers and firemen is all too lengthy for this work.

Since the town became a city regular municipal plans of modern type have been observed and utilized for the safety of the community. The present chief of the Fire Department is Arthur Montmeny; deputy chiefs, Frank J. Thetreault and James S. McNeish; mechanician, Frank J. Jerusik; captains, Timothy D. Flynn, Walter H. Harscheid, Michael H. Glancy, George Thompson, Jeremiah J. Falvey, F. X. O'Connor. The list of permanent firemen totals forty-six. The company is well equipped with up-to-date appliances for fighting fires.

In 1924 the department responded to 467 alarms, one being a general alarm. The total value of property endangered was $1,293,680. Insurance to cover same was $1,024,290. Total loss of property buildings and contents, $93,217.

The Water Commissioner's report for 1924 shows that $29,000 worth of new mains have been added to the system; new gates and hydrants cost $3,943. These water works are now thirty years old, and were established in 1893 by floating bonds to the sum of $300,000. The present valuation of the properties of the department is $1,250,000 and all liabilities amount to $106,111. The present number of fire-hydrants is 492. Water-pipe mains amount to eighty-nine miles.

Chicopee of Today—The 1925 official manual of the City of Chicopee gives facts and figures as follows: First settled 1638; incorporated as a town 1848; population at that date 7,861; incorporated as a city 1890; population in 1895 was 16,427; population in

1900, 19,167; population, 1910, 25,401; in 1915, 30,138; 1920, 36,218; total municipal vote in 1924 was 8,404. The total valuation in 1924 was $47,926,760; tax-rate in 1924 was $28.50 per thousand dollars valuation. The number of acres of land assessed is 12,800; number dwellings, 4,353; public school enrollment, 6,510; water pipe mains, eighty-nine miles; fire hydrants, 492; electric lights, 1,762; latitude of City Hall, 42 degrees and 8 minutes; longitude, City Hall, 72 degrees, 36 minutes. City Hall erected in 1870-71; dedicated, December 21, 1871; height of spire, 147 feet; high school burned January 17, 1916.

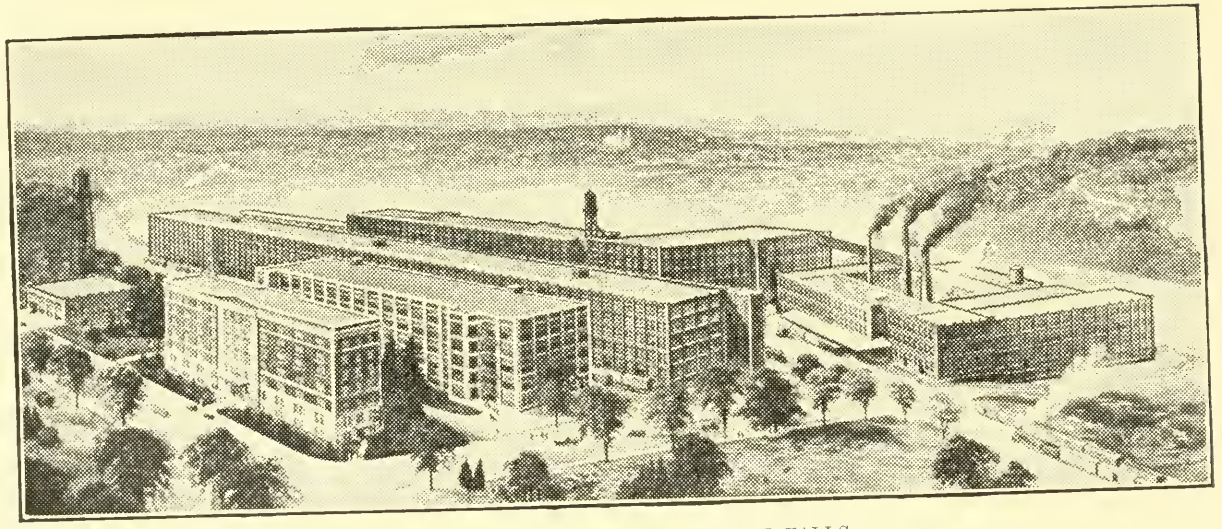
In December, 1924, there were assessed polls and registered voters as follows: Men voters, 6,476; women voters, 4,023.

The assessor's report for 1924 shows total valuation of personal property estate, $11,880,330; valuation of buildings, $28,783,290; value of land, $7,263,140; total, $47,926,760. Number persons assessed on property, 9,210; persons assessed on poll tax only, 6,660. The total amount raised by tax for current year for state, county and city purposes, $1,365,912.

The school report shows 160 teachers in the 151 school rooms, with a total of 6,063 pupils. The Chicopee High School has 24 teachers, 506 pupils, 8 superintendents and 9 special instructors.

The 1925 city officers include these: City clerk—Charles P. La Riviere; city treasurer—Louis M. Default; city auditor—Walter P. Cannon; solicitor—James E. Hafey; city collector—William F. Bostwick; city messenger—Frank Z. Robinson; superintendent of schools—John J. Desmond; assessors—William H. Trumbull, M. J. Lynch, George Charpentier. There are numerous other less important officers. The mayor is Joseph M. Grise; president of the board of aldermen, Philip Beauregard; aldermen by wards: Ward 1—John J. Healey; Ward 2—John J. Touhill; Ward 3—Frank J. Godeck; Ward 4—Anthony J. Stonina; Ward 5—Edmund F. Dowd; Ward 6—Patrick M. Sullivan; Ward 7—Charles D. Gagne.

The list of mayors in Chicopee has been as follows: George S. Taylor, 1891; W. W. McClench, 1892; Henry H. Harris, 1893; W. M. E. Mellen, 1894; Andrew Gale, 1895; Alexander Grant, 1896; G. D. Eldredge, 1897-98; Dennis Murphy, 1899-1900; James H. Loomis, 1901-03; C. A. Buckley, 1904; A. E. Taylor, 1905 to 1907; J. O. Beauchamp, 1908; William J. Fuller, 1909; Samuel E. Fletcher, 1910-11; Frank A. Rivers, 1912-13-14; William J. Dunn, 1915; Daniel J. Coaklet, 1916 to 1920; James E. Higgins, 1920-21; Joseph M. Grise, 1922-25.



PLANT OF THE FISK TIRE COMPANY, INC., CHICOPEE FALLS

Present Industries—Of the general industries of Chicopee in 1924-25 the following is a fair list of the most important concerns: Heading the many manufacturing interests should first be named the banking interests, which have ever had their important part in carrying forward these industries. The banks include the Polish National Credit Union; Aldenville Co-operative Bank; Cabot Trust Co.; Chicopee Co-operative Bank; Chicopee Falls Savings Bank.

The factories include the bobbin and spool factory; box-makers; braid and shoe-laces; brass founders; brick manufacturers; broom works; carpet factory; the Ames Sword Company, incorporated in 1881; Bay State Elevator Company; Butterworth Carpet Company, established 1893; Chicopee Manufacturing Company, incorporated 1882, capital $1,100,000; Coburn Trolley Track Manufacturing Company; Dwight Manufacturing Company, incorporated 1856, capital $2,400,000; Fisk Rubber Company, incorporated 1910; Lamb Knitting Machine Company, incorporated in Chicopee Falls, capital $120,000, Frank D. Howard, president; W. J. Marshall Company, incorporated 1922; National Scale Corporation; Page-Lewis Arms Company; Page Needle Company; Palmer Steel Company, papermakers' chemicals; Sheldon Hardware Company; Rauch & Lang, incorporated in 1920, capital $5,000,000; A. G. Spalding & Brothers, cotton goods manufacturers, two large plants; fence manufacturers; Haarmann, G. & Co.; Economy Furnace; knit goods factory, Chicopee Falls, three plants; mirror makers, Holyoke Mirror Manufacturing Company; wrench manufacture, by Moore Drop-Forging Company.

One of the great plants of industry in Chicopee is the A. G. Spalding & Brothers corporation, makers of athletic and sporting goods. It was established in 1876. At present, in the United States they have eight factories; in Canada, one factory and four stores; in Great Britain, one factory, one tannery, and three stores; in France, one factory and one store; in Australia, one factory and two stores. Total capitalization, $10,766,000.00. The floor space in Chicopee is 308,000 square feet. In this plant are made golf balls, tennis balls, striking bag and football bladders, ice and roller skates, golf clubs, tennis rackets, skis, gymnasium and play-ground apparatus. J. W. Spalding is chairman of the board of directors and J. W. Curtiss is president.

Concerning the banks already listed above, let it further be said that the first attempt at banking in Chicopee was when the "Cabot Bank" was chartered January 24, 1845, on a capital of $150,000.

Its first president was John Chase and Gilbert Walker its cashier. Later it was organized as a national bank. It was styled the "First National Bank of Chicopee." It is now known as the Cabot Trust Company. Its resources and liabilities are $696,305. In June, 1925, its deposits were $518,601.

The Chicopee Falls Savings Bank was chartered in 1875 by forty-one incorporators. The first president was Joshua W. Osgood; Edgar T. Paige was secretary. It is still conducting a most excellent banking business.

CHAPTER VII

TOWN OF WESTFIELD

This town lies on Westfield river, is eight miles distant from Springfield and is an important manufacturing town of Hampden county, bounded on the north by the town of Southampton, in Hampshire county; south by Southwick; on the east by Agawam, Holyoke and West Springfield; on the west by Russell and Montgomery. It is traversed east and west by the Boston and Maine railway line and in the south is the New York and New Haven Railroad.

The surface is generally flat and undulating, except on the east and west, where hilly ranges border the town. The central portion of Westfield is an expansive valley, surrounded, save at the northwest extremity, by abrupt terraces from twenty to seventy feet high. A spur of the Green Mountain range fringes the western border and in the northwest rises Mount Tekoa, from which in a clear day, the naked eye can see within a radius of seventy-five miles.

Early Settlement—Who made the first settlement and just the date of settlement still remains and ever will remain unsettled. But the majority of local historical writers seem well agreed that the date was between 1658 and 1662. It is certain that land grants were issued in 1658 to Thomas Cooper; in 1660 to Deacon Chapman, and in 1661 to Captain Pynchon, Robert Ashley, and George Colton. In 1666, George Phelps, Isaac Phelps, Captain Cook, W. Cornish, Thomas Dewey, J. Noble, David Ashley, John Holyoke, John Ingersoll received grants and settled here in that year.

The first child born in the town was Benjamin Sexton, 1666. From records it is clear that George Phelps received the confirmation of his land title in 1662 for land at "Woronoco."

The Name—The Indian name of Westfield was known as "Woronoco," or "Warronoco."

In March, 1667, the spot for effecting a permanent settlement was fixed near the Little River, and near its junction with the Great River, or Agawam, and above the present iron bridge, a mile to the east of the village of Westfield. A strong palisade of two miles in circumference was built for protection against the savages. Within

this enclosure was situated the residences, and also a strong log fort, in which was a deep cellar provided for women and children in case of attack.

Incorporation—Westfield was up to May 28, 1669, a part of the town of Springfield, the history of which town will treat also on the early events of what is now Westfield. The first town clerk named for this town was John Ashley, in 1693. The most important village within this town is Westfield, the seat of town government. In 1878 this village had a population of 7,000; seven churches; a postoffice; town hall; high school; Masonic Hall; normal school; School of Observation; Davis School; Music Hall; the Athenaeum; two banks; two railway depots; numerous factories, etc.

Other settlements or hamlets within the town were from the early times known as West Parish, Middle Farms, Little River, Owens, East Farms and West Farms.

The Great Flood of 1878—Westfield has been visited by no less than four destructive floods since 1819, to-wit: 1819, 1839, 1869, and 1878; the latter proved the worst of all. These floods were caused by the breaking away of dikes on Westfield river, above the village, brought on by a sudden rise of the river on the night of December 10th, after a heavy snow of the week previous. Careful estimates placed the financial loss at $100,000.

The Revolutionary records relating to this town show that "July 2, 1781, it was voted to raise 130 pounds sterling, hard money, to purchase beef ordered by the General Court for the army." In the same month the General Court ordered the town "to raise fifteen three-months' men, and as inducement the town offered each soldier four pounds in hard money."

Churches—The earliest religious service in this town was in 1667, when John Holyoke, son of Major Holyoke, of Springfield, conducted a meeting, and in 1668, Moses Fisk began to preach there and received forty pounds a year for his services, and the same amount was paid for building a meeting-house. In 1678 the Governor of Massachusetts Colony granted permission for the organization of a church at "Warronnoco Colony," and in 1679 the First Congregational Church was organized, and soon Rev. Edward Taylor was installed pastor. In 1672 it was resolved to build a meeting-house. A second church was built in 1720.

The Baptist Church of Westfield was organized in 1784 and

prospered until 1795, when it was disorganized until 1806. The first church was erected in 1794, on South street. The second was built a mile east of the village of Westfield; and the third was on Main street, near the bridge; the fourth was on the west side of Elm street; the fifth was built in 1868, at a cost of $35,000, including the $6,000 pipe organ.

The First Methodist Episcopal Church or "Society of Westfield" was organized in 1794 and at the first quarterly meeting the collection was only fifty cents. The first Methodist society in the village of Westfield was organized in 1812 with ten members, one of whom was a colored woman. The first church building was erected in 1832-33, on Main street. In 1843 a larger building was provided where the postoffice later stood. In 1875 a new church was built costing $50,000 and the organ $7,000.

The Roman Catholic church at Westfield was formed as a part of the mission in 1853 under Father Blenkinsop, of Chicopee. In 1880 the town had about 1,500 Catholic people.

The Universalist Society was formed in 1853 with a membership of only thirteen. Rev. D. H. Plumb was the first pastor.

The Second Congregational Church was formed in 1856, being taken from the First church. In 1861 a church building was commenced on Main street. Its cost was $25,000. Rev. Francis Homes was the first pastor.

The Episcopal church was in charge of Rev. B. F. Cooley in the seventies and then had about seventy members. The church was organized in 1860 and worshiped in the Universalist chapel four years.

The Second Adventist—This church was built in 1874 at a cost of $6,300. Elder James Hemingway was one of the first pastors. Other churches cheerfully allowed these people to occupy their buildings. In 1880 the membership was about one hundred.

In 1925 the directory gives the following as the churches of Westfield: Adventists, Baptists, Christian Science, First Congregational, Second Congregational, Episcopal, Jewish Congregation, Lutheran, First Methodist Episcopal, Mundale Methodist Episcopal, Wyben Union Chapel Association; Roman Catholic—Holy Trinity, Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Casimir's Lithuanian, St. Mark's and St. Peter's.

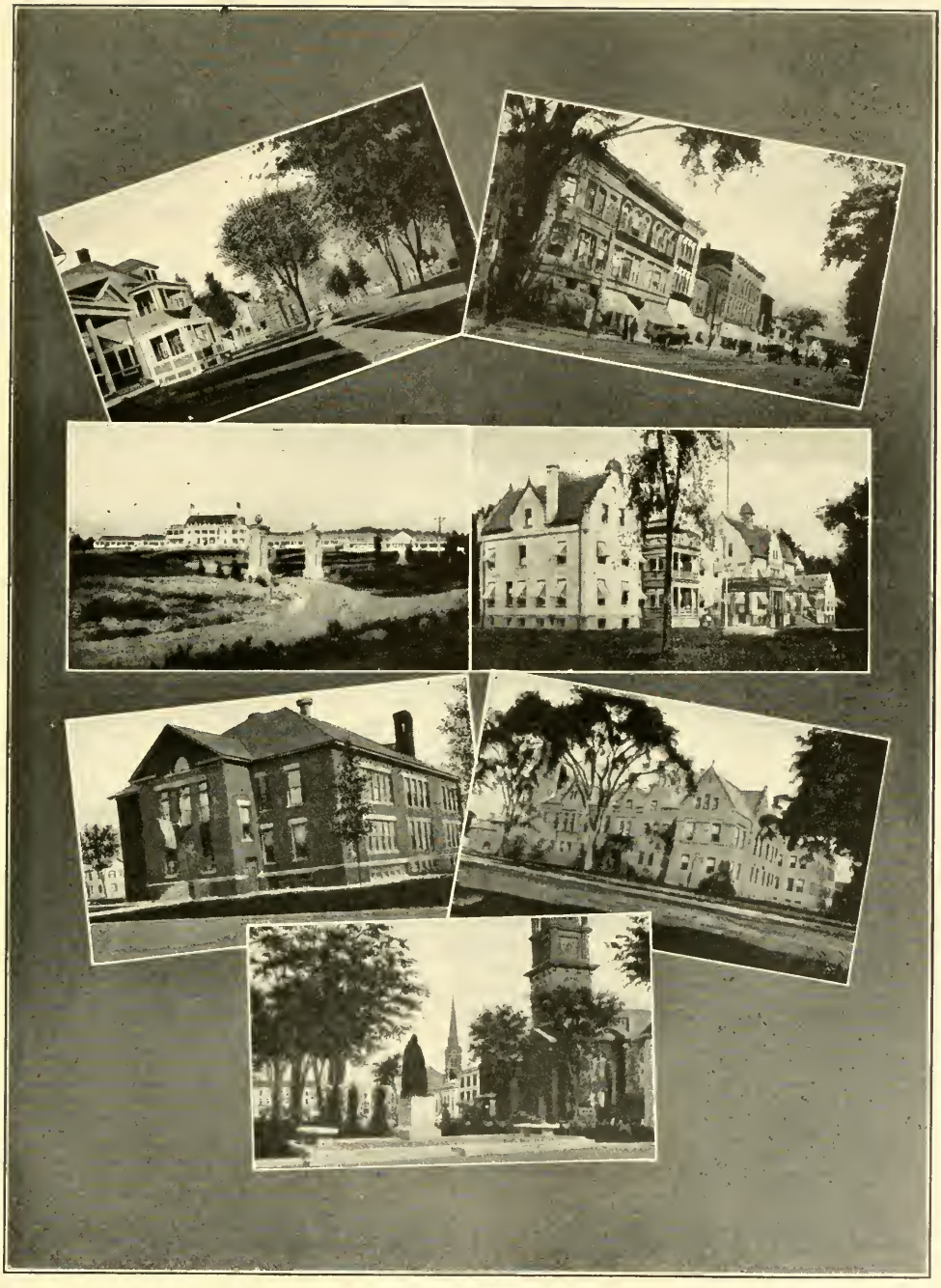
The Young Men's Christian Association is a very active, strong body in these parts.

The Westfield Academy—While not in existence today, what was known as the Westfield Academy was dear to the hearts and memory of many who resided in the county between 1797 and 1867. In brief, its history may be stated in these words: In June, 1793, the Massachusetts legislature established the Westfield Academy, "for the purpose of promoting piety, religion, and morality," according to the reading of the Act, in part. The first board of trustees was organized April 20, 1797, when it was voted "that the sum of $1000 and more is secured by the inhabitants of Westfield for the benefit of the academy in addition to the sum voted for the same purpose by the said town." In addition the legislature donated a half township of land in Maine, which was later sold for $5,000. A building was immediately erected where now stands the high school building. It was dedicated January 1, 1800. The old building was occupied until 1857, when it was replaced on the same site by a handsome brick structure, later used as a high school building. The corner-stone of the new building was laid July 31, 1857. The old academy fund had reached $5,000 when the new corner-stone was laid. The sum of $10,000 was subscribed by citizens, in addition to $5,000 which the town of Westfield had given. But with the excellent work being done in the State Normal and the improved high school of Westfield, interest began to decrease in the Academy until in 1867 the trustees closed the school down and sold the property to the town for high school purposes for $35,000. It was converted into what was then badly needed in Westfield, a new high school structure.

The Public Schools—The first reference to schools in this town was in February, 1678. The record shows that on the date of February 4th, that year, it was agreed to "give Mr. Dentre 15 pounds sterling to act as a schoolmaster."

In 1699 it was voted that such persons as are too poor to pay for schooling should provide a load of wood for each scholar, as it should be needed.

In a school report of 1879, it is learned that the town then had nineteen school buildings. The total number of students was then 1,450. The people of this city have ever been alert to the best progressive interests in all that tends to make practical the common school system. The total cost of the several schools in 1924 was $212,865 net. More school room space is needed and will soon be a necessity and doubtless provided speedily. The last report shows



WESTFIELD

MAIN STREET
STATE SANITARIUM
PROSPECT HILL SCHOOL

HIGH SCHOOL

ELM STREET
NOBLE HOSPITAL
GEN. SHEPARD'S MONUMENT

the total membership in the schools to be 4,398; average attendance, 3,614. The various schools of Westfield in 1924 included these: The High School, Abner Gibbs, Ashley Street, Fort Meadow, Franklin Street, Green District, Moseley, Prospect Hill, State Normal Training, Court Street, Union Street, East Mountain, Fox District School, Little River, Middle Farms, Mundale, Pochassic and Wyben.

The Public Library—What is known as the Athenaeum, or Public Library, of this city was the outgrowth of the public spirit and benevolence of Samuel Mather and Hiram Harrison, Esqs., both natives of Westfield. Shortly before 1864, Mr. Mather donated $10,000 toward the endowment of a library and reading room in his native town, and at his suggestion, the Athenaeum was incorporated March 11, 1864. The first meeting of the organization was held December 15, 1866, and immediately Mr. Mather delivered over ten thousand dollars in U. S. Government bonds. Mr. Harrison erected a library building at a cost of $10,000, and presented it with the land it occupied to the Athenaeum. Other gifts soon followed. These latter donations were for providing books for the newly built library structure. The library opened January 1, 1868, and in 1879 it had 9,200 volumes on its shelves. The building proved useful for many years till outgrown. It was then sold to the United States Whip Company and the library was moved to the corner of Elm and Court streets.

During the present year (1925) a new brick library building is being constructed adjoining and including the building facing Park Square on the west. The old one will be used entirely for the children's department. The new structure will cost about $200,000 and is the gift of a few persons, including $80,000 from Milton B. Whitney and $50,000 from Mrs. Florence Rand Lang, of Montclair, New Jersey, in memory of her father and grandfather, Jasper R. Rand (Sr. and Jr.), the largest bequests made. Others were $15,000 from Senator F. H. Gillett and his sister, Miss Lucy Gillett. The library building now in use was the residence of Hon. James Fowler, Senator Gillett's grandfather. Another $15,000 gift was made by William T. Smith for an Historical Museum, in honor of his father, Edwin Smith. There are four departments, all combined under the one corporate head of "Westfield Athenaeum." The present number of books in this library is 38,100. Its officers are these: President, H. W. Kittridge; vice-president, W. B. Reed; secretary, William F.

Lyman; treasurer, Frank Grant; auditor, Chester H. Abbe.

Newspapers—The earliest newspaper established in Westfield was the "Hampden Register," issued February 13, 1824, by Major Joseph Root. Politically it was a Federalist organ, at first, but later became a Whig paper, under Smith & Eldridge of Springfield. It was changed in name to "Westfield Register" and was again strongly Whig; it went down November 29, 1831. Two years later Joseph Bull established the "Westfield Journal" and sold to N. T. Leonard, who changed the name to the "Democrat-Herald." It also was discontinued for lack of support in about one year. H. B. Smith published the "Talisman," which survived only three months. Calvin Torrey issued the "Westfield Spectator" in April, 1839, and continued it until 1841. It was bought by Dr. W. O. Bell, who changed the name to the "Woronoco Palladium," which name seemed to be too heavy, and it was changed to "Spectator." It went the way of all the earth in 1844!

Elijah Porter established the "Westfield News-Letter" in 1841 and it continued until 1847. "Wide-Awake American," a Know-Nothing paper, started in 1854, and one year later moved to Springfield. Other papers started only to sell out to the "News-Letter" under Clark & Story, who changed it to the "Times and News-Letter." The "Westfield Standard" (Democratic) was established in 1845 by a stock company.

The present newspaper of Westfield is the "Westfield Journal," an eight-column daily paper of eight pages. It was established in 1923 and was the consolidation of the "Valley Echo," established in 1885, the "Huntington Herald," established in 1886, and the "Chester Chronicle," established in 1886. It is an exceptional daily for its limited local interests, and has a good patronage. It is published by the Westfield Press, Inc.

State Normal School—The State located its second Normal School at Barre, in September, 1839, but in 1844 removed it to Westfield village. In September, 1846, a handsome structure was built and first occupied as a Normal School. Its cost was $6,500, of which the State furnished $2,500, the town $500, the central school district $1,500, and a private subscription the residue. In 1861 and 1869, respectively, the building was materially improved and enlarged by the State, at an expense of $25,000. As far back as 1878, 111 pupils and a corps of seven teachers were in attendance. Connected with this institution there was a School of Observation,

a valuable library, apparatus and a good chemical library. Near at hand, was the fine brick structure of a Normal School Boarding Hall, erected by Massachusetts in 1873-74, at a cost of $85,000, and which at first had seventy inmates.

Dickinson Hall was provided as a more commodious dormitory, and first occupied September 8, 1903; it was erected at a cost of $95,000.

The present beautiful school building was erected so as to be dedicated June 21, 1892, at a cost of $150,000. In 1899-1900 the original building was razed to the ground to provide a site for the Normal Training School, erected at a cost of $45,000. The first catalog was issued in 1847. It contained the names of 160 students. Pupils then boarded at private houses and paid $1.75 a week for board, room and washing.

The following shows the list of persons serving as principals since the establishment of the institution: Samuel P. Newman, 1839-1842, (at Barre); Emerson Davis, 1844-46; David S. Rowe, 1846-54; William H. Wells, 1854-56; John W. Dickinson, 1856-1877; Joseph G. Scott, 1877-87; James G. Greenough, 1887-1896; Charles S. Chapin, 1896-1901; Clarence A. Brodeur, 1901 to the time of his recent death. The present principal is Charles Russell, Ph.D., who succeeded Mr. Brodeur.

The efficient principal of the Training School is George W. Winslow, who has magnified his office for many years. The secretary of the Normal faculty is Ida R. Abrams.

The library contains 6,000 volumes. Dickinson Hall provides accommodations for seventy-five students. The last annual report shows that the State Normal had in 1924, Seniors in two-year course, 77; Juniors in two-year course, 106; special students, 4; total number students, 187.

Westfield's Lodges—Mount Moriah Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, at Westfield, was instituted in 1856. Eastern Star, Royal Arch Masons, dates back many years. Today the fraternity is well represented by the various degrees in Masonry, including the Eastern Star Chapter. The order owns a handsome, capacious "Masonic Temple" on Elm street. These lodges of this ancient and honorable order have a good membership from among the best men and women in the community.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows was first represented in Westfield by Westfield Lodge No. 152. Wildey Encampment was

forty-seventh in Massachusetts. Another early lodge of Odd Fellows was Woronoco, No. 74. Today Odd Fellowship is very prosperous in Westfield. Subordinate, Encampment and Rebekah degrees are all well represented in the city of Westfield.

Besides the above civic societies, Westfield today has numerous benevolent and secret societies, including Ancient Order of Hibernians, American Legion, Ancient Order of United Workmen, Elks, Central Labor Union, Foresters of America, Eagles, Grand Army of the Republic, Independent Order of Red Men, Knights of Columbus, Knights of Pythias, Knights of Malta.

Banking of Westfield—Forty years ago this town had two national banks, with a capital of $400,000. The First National Bank was organized in 1864, with a capital of $150,000 ,and in 1865 consolidated with the Westfield Bank, which was organized in 1851, on a $100,000 capital. The Westfield Savings Bank was formed in 1853 and the Woronoco Savings Bank was organized in 1871.

The present banks are the following: The Hampden National Bank was organized in 1825 as a state bank, and in 1865 as a national bank, with deposits amounting to $115,000. June 30, 1925, it had resources and liabilities amounting to $3,131,176.23. Its officers are: Charles J. Little, president; James Noble, Jr., vice-president; Lewis C. Parker, cashier; Charles E. Avery, assistant cashier. There are eleven directors. The present deposits are $2,460,000. The present beautiful building was erected in 1924 on the north side of Park Square.

The First National Bank is the oldest national bank in the State. It was organized in 1864, as above noted. The condensed statement made April 6, 1925, shows resources and liabilities of $2,448,739. Its deposits were then $1,475,324. Its present officers are: Joseph A. Kenyon, president; Harry C. Lane, vice-president; Loring P. Lane, cashier. There are nine men on the board of directors.

Westfield Co-operative Bank—This bank was organized in 1913, and their June statement, 1925, shows resources and liabilities of $1,869,949. The present officers are: George E. Shepard, president; H. S. Eaton, vice-president; James H. Clark, treasurer and clerk.

Westfield Savings Bank was incorporated in 1853. This is a mutual savings institution and has no stockholders. Deposits as low as one dollar are accepted. January 31, 1925, its statement showed liabilities and assets amounting to $7,696,675. The present

officers are: Daniel F. Doherty, president; Louis M. Fuller and Thomas J. Dewey, vice-presidents; Harry B. Putnam, treasurer; George A. Upson, assistant treasurer; the board of trustees is made up of fifteen men.

Woronoco Savings Bank, incorporated in 1871, is a mutual savings bank, conducted solely for the interest of the depositors. Its June, 1925, statement shows liabilities and assets amounting to $4,870,303. The present officers are: O. B. Parks, president; T. J. Cooley, C. H. Abbe, vice-presidents; H. B. Moulton, treasurer; F. A. Ballou, clerk, and the trustees number fifteen.

"The Whip City"—This has long been the name applied to Westfield, on account of its leading industry having long been that of whip-making. The industry commenced with the invention of machine-made whips, and now ninety-five per cent of all whips in the country are manufactured in this city. The output is now 7,500,000 annually. The first machine was invented by Joseph Joker of Westfield, and in 1855 there were thirty small whip-making shops in the place. The largest of these shops was that of H. Harrison & Co., who formed the foundation for the American Whip Co., and still later the United States Whip Co. Between 1855 and 1893 many new shops were opened up, all engaged in whip-making. Finally nearly all were sold or in some way merged with the United States Whip Co. in 1893, which company produces a greater percentage of all whips made and sold in the world today. Hence the name "Whip City of the World." The earliest shops in Westfield making whips were those of Titus Pease and Thomas Rose in 1801. Very crude indeed were the whips made at that date, but with time improvements were made until the finished whips today are marvels of strength and beauty. In 1906 there were thirty-six whip factories in Westfield; two of whip buttons; three of whip machinery; eight of whip lashes; two of whip mountings; three of platting; five of whip stocks; three of whip snaps; one of whip thread. The city contains many large buildings, all the homes of whips, which once were owned by many firms, but now are mostly merged into the large one above mentioned.

In 1855 Dow & Gillett had a factory employing 100 hands, and made an output of $55,000 worth annually; J. & R. Nobel, established in 1834, worked 100 men and made whips valued at $50,000 annually; William Robbins & Co. had 100 men and produced large annual output; W. Harrison & Co., established about 1827, em-

ployed 350 hands and made $150,000 worth of whips; J. R. Land & Co., established in 1835, worked seventy men and produced $60,000 worth annually; other dealers were King & Avery, R. Loomis & Co., Munroe Brown & Co. and lesser concerns.

In 1906 the capital of the United States Whip Co. was in excess of $1,400,000. While the introduction of the automobile has in a measure decreased the use of whips, yet the field is so large that as many whips are now demanded in the world-at-large as ever before, hence the factories here are kept busy in supplying hundreds of varieties of whips. To realize the magnitude of this enterprise one should view the great whip-making plants as they hum today.

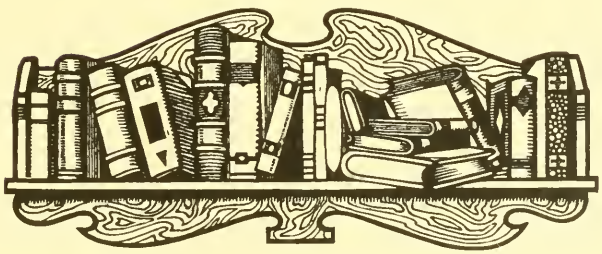
Fire Department—This department was organized in 1848 and has long been known as one of the best in Massachusetts for the size and requirements of the place. The present engine house in the heart of the city proper was erected in 1870. The entire equipment was motorized in 1917 and all horses formerly used disposed of. The 1925 equipment includes four combination hose and chemicals, one city service hook and ladder truck, two engine houses—one on the north side of the river; 4,000 feet of workable hose.

The present force of firemen is composed of fourteen "Permanent Men," and thirty-four "Call Men," with officers as follows: Chief—Thomas H. Mahoney; First Deputy—Herbert H. Thorp; Second Deputy—William W. Clark; Superintendent of Fire Alarm—George C. Byers. Whenever and wherever tested, these firemen have proven themselves capable of every duty imposed upon them. The officers are men of nerve and good judgment.

Police Department—The efficiency of the Police Department appears to be of the highest order and meeting in every way the demands placed upon it. The roster of the department in 1925 is as follows: Chief—Thomas F. Daley; Inspector—William O'Brien; Captain—William J. O'Brien; Sergeant—Michael J. Condon; Sergeant—Michael F. Murphy; Patrolmen—J. J. McDermott, P. H. Coffey, M. J. Slattery, M. J. Daly, J. J. Ashe, G. T. Hickson, W. J. Rehor, Archie Williams, Allen H. Smith, Edward J. Sheehan, Anthony Michalek, M. J. Cummings and Joseph Cleary. The reserve patrolmen are F. J. McConnell, Horace Fuller, Jr., Earl Fuller, John F. Tuohey and David F. Sullivan.

Water Department—The water-works of this sprightly city are now more than a half century old. To date of 1924, the cost of the

system has been $658,219; the water debt at the same date was only $4,000. The policy of reforestation is going forward annually. The species of trees include the white pine, Scotch pine, red pine, Jack pine, catalpa and spruces.



CHAPTER VIII

WESTERN TIER OF TOWNS

West Springfield—Because of age, and of its great importance in the development of the mother town, West Springfield, for fifty years known as the "Second Parish of Springfield," is especially deserving of extended mention. Within its original limits was built (Agawam meadows) the first habitation erected by a white man in the middle Connecticut Valley. Its incorporation as a separate parish came Wednesday, May 27, 1696. The reasons given in the petition of the inhabitants for separation from the community east of the Great River and alluded to in the act of incorporation, were their "distance from place of meeting for publick worship of God in sd Town," the "difficulties and dangers attending their passing of the sd River," and a fear that their children were in "danger of becoming heathens for want of instruction!" So, the petition was granted by Governor William Stoughton and the Council, with solemn injunctions to "invite, procure and settle a learned and orthodox minister to dispense the Word of God to those that dwell there and to arrange for the "building of a Meeting House," always one of the earliest concerns connected with the New England settlement.

In April, 1907, the lots on the river's west bank were divided into plots of ten acres each and allotted to male inhabitants of the town who had completed their twenty-first year. The earliest record of the "parish of West Springfield" showed that there were seventy-three of these lot-owners; and the record further states that there were "about thirty-two Families and upwards of two hundred Souls."

The people had grown into such a sizeable community in a half century more that they insisted upon their own town government. The first definite action was voted by the parish in July, 1756; and the question was agitated with considerable opposition to the project, until February, 1774, when the State passed the act of separate township incorporation. The main reasons cited in the wording of this act were "the Remote Settlements, Disputes, Controversies, and different Interests," also "the Difficulty & often Impracticability of Assembly in Town Meetings for Elections and other necessary purposes by Reason of the Great River Connecticut, almost equally dis-

secting the Township" of Springfield. The inhabitants lost no time in exercising their new legal privileges. The seven selectmen of Springfield, Benjamin Day, Charles Pynchon, Nathaniel Ely, 2d, Aaron Colton, John Hale, Jonath. White, and Benjamin Ely, ordered the first town-meeting to be held Wednesday, March 23, 1774, in the old meeting house on the Common. There were only six "articles" in the first warrant, the last being to cast "votes for a County Treasurer" and another being "to permit Swine to go at large" when "yoked and ringed."

It should be recalled that this separation cut off from Springfield's original 25-mile-square territory all of what is now Holyoke, Agawam, Feeding Hills, Suffield, and nearly all of Southwick, leaving Springfield possessions to include Ludlow, Longmeadow, Wilbraham, Enfield, and Somers, "the River to be the dividing line."

The original settlement in West Springfield territory, after the one-season experiment in the lowlands of Agawam, seems not to have been until about 1655, on "Chickuppe Plains," in what is now West Springfield's northern end. This same section is early mentioned as "the Field" in the Hampshire county records of July 29, 1729, in connection with the laying out of a new highway from Suffield to Northampton. The name occurs publicly again, in the county record, to "lay out a road from Northampton court-house to the West Springfield meeting house, said road to pass through Chikopee Field," November 20, 1799. In early times the name of "Cabot" or "Cabotville" was given to what is now the city of Chicopee, across the river, and the name "Skipmuck" to what is now Chicopee Falls.

The first meeting house was occupied in 1702, as the large numerals, surmounted by a four-foot, gilded rooster, boldly testified. The church had been organized in June, four years before, and the Rev. John Woodbridge became the first minister. Its architect was John Allys of Hatfield, who 25 years previously had designed and erected the second meeting house built in Springfield. It had three roofs going up to a small point, one above the other, the last about ninety feet from the ground. Each roof had four dormer-windows. This quaint specimen of architecture was 42 feet square on the ground, had three separate entrances, and the inhabitants pointed with some pride to some thirty-two windows (counting gable-ends) with leaden sash and small diamond shaped window-panes.

In this building the settlers assembled at the beating of a drum for forty-one years. A bell was then procured, another occasion for

the people's pride. In 1761 this bell was cracked by being rung too vigorously in the bitter cold of a winter Sunday morning. It was re-cast four times, the last in February, 1825, when additional metal was used to enlarge it. In 1802 it was re-hung in the steeple of the "White Church on the Hill," now the Masonic Temple, and is only heard when the tower-clock strikes.

The ancient pulpit built by Allys on the Common, was occupied by Rev. John Woodbridge for twenty years, by Rev. Samuel Hopkins for thirty-five years, and Rev. Dr. Joseph Lathrop forty-five years. Many of the latter's sermons were published and had a far wider circulation for those times than the addresses of any other minister in New England. Dr. Lathrop's ministry lasted 64 years, its last period in the "White Church on the Hill." He died on the last day of the year 1820 in his ninetieth year.

The Oldest Graves—From ample records left by the late Harriet E. B. Loomis, genealogist and historian, have been obtained invaluable data, never elsewhere published, about West Springfield's vital records. These she was long and faithfully engaged in collecting for the New England Historic Genealogical Society for this section; a certain "Eddy Fund" has provided for the collection of this priceless material. From a study of the old cemeteries in town many interesting and verifying facts are obtained about the first families and earliest settlers. "Edward Foster, of Springfield, Husbandman," came into the possession of west side lands in the vicinity of Union and Church streets, where now is the oldest graveyard in town, through marriage to Sarah Marshfield, the widow of Thomas Miller, killed by the Indians at the burning of Springfield in 1675. According to records on file, the Fosters, on March 19, 1711, "for Divers Causes Moving Particularly to Accommodate the Inhabitants . . . Living on the West Side of the Great River, with a Convenient piece of Land for a Burying place," gave land "in the great field near the place Called the Cold Spring, being in quantity about 94 rods; and is in length, 13 rods, and in breadth 7½ rods; Bounded southerly by a highway from the Home Lots, going into the field towards Agawam, and easterly by a Highway that runneth at the rears of the said Home Lots, thence northerly and westerly by my own lands." This constitutes the town's oldest cemetery—what is now known as the "Union Street," the "Cold Spring," or "Old Meadow" graveyard. Here are the oldest stones in town. The earliest is that of one "Nathaniel Dwit, Who Died At Springfield, November 7, 1711." Another tells of Deacon John Barber, who

came from Windsor, Conn., married Bathsheba Coggin in 1663, who was made a deacon twelve years before he died, January 17, 1712, aged 70. His son, Thomas, dying at the age of 40, just two years later, is the subject of the next later stone. The fourth earliest date is found on the only monumental shaft in this yard, one erected years later for "Rev. John Woodbridge, First Minister of West Springfield. After Serving His Generation Faithfully, Fell Asleep June 10, 1718. The Righteous Shall Be Had In Everlasting Remembrance. Erected By The Descendants Of His Parishioners, 1852." Next earliest stone is that of Samuel Day, 1720, whose son Josiah Day built the famous oldest house now in town, the "Day House," maintained by the Ramapogue Historical Society on the West Springfield common; Benjamin Leonard, 1728; Samuel Ely and Tilly Mirick, 1873; Sarah Cook, Ebenezer Morgan and Sarah Barber, all 1733; Mrs. Lydia Morgan and Sarah Mirick, both 1734; Eunis Ely, 1738; Elizabeth Day, Sarah Jones and Rebeccah Evans, all 1739, and the Rev. Samuel Hopkins, second minister of the parish of West Springfield, who died in 1755 in his "62d year and 36th of his Ministry," are included in this oldest group of the town's burials. The Elys, Days and Merricks are largely represented in the 121 names in this yard.

About 1770 the "Paucatuck" cemetery, in the Tatham Hills district, was begun. The graves of Jonathan Smith, 1722; Mrs. Tabitha Miller and Mrs. Jerusha Day, in 1775, are the oldest legible stones in that yard. The families of Smith, Rogers and Cooley predominate in its 214 names.

The burial ground on Park street, started about 1787 when Solomon Lathrop was buried there, contains several stones with older dates, including those of Deacon Caleb Bliss, 1758; Samuel Lathrop, 1767, and Mary Ely, 1769, their bodies having been moved from the other cemeteries. In the front row nearest the street are two white-marble stones with elaborate inscriptions in memory of Rev. Dr. Joseph Lathrop and his wife, Elizabeth Dwight Lathrop. One of the oldest is the headstone for Dr. Othniel Hosford, a physician of great promise, who died aged 37. Doctor Reuben Champion, who died in the army at Ticonderoga, aged 50, in 1777; Col. David Leonard, who died of the smallpox at Lake George, in 1777, at the age of 37, and Capt. Levi Ely, who was killed in military service on the Mohawk river in 1780, are among the noteworthy monuments in this large yard, containing 478 names. The Elys, Days and Cooleys are most numerous here.

AIRPLANE VIEW OF EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION GROUNDS, WEST SPRINGFIELD, THREE-QUARTERS OF A MILE WEST OF MEMORIAL BRIDGE, SEEN IN MIDDLE DISTANCE

The Ashleyville cemetery in the north end of the present town has 468 names, the Ashleys, Baggs and Elys in the majority. It was started about 1770, and the grave of little Urany Todd, 3-year-old daughter of Deacon Jesse Todd, was made there a year later. The most notable grave in this yard is that of the town's chief benefactors and Revolutionary soldier, John Ashley. His tombstone, erected in 1825, calls him "Distinguished for his Publick Spirit and Active Benevolence." In 1789, this progressive citizen headed the list of subscribers to the first library ever started in this part of the State. It had a nucleus of fifty-six volumes, and was carried around to the most responsible families of the parish in a two bushel basket. Years later, a controversy having arisen as to the right location for the new meeting-house then demanded, the great embarrassment of the minister thereat was relieved by John Ashley's generous offer of thirteen hundred pounds as a fund for the support of the ministry, on condition that all parties should agree upon the site he should select (on the hill-top where it now stands, at the head of King's Highway) and that the "spacious and elegant meeting house" to be built there should be occupied for church purposes for a hundred years. On January 6, 1800, the people buried their differences, voting thankful acceptance of the gift, and the new church was immediately built. Mr. Ashley had previously given funds for the carrying on of the work of the church, and a lot of land for the burial-place. He died in 1824 at the age of 84. His grand-niece, Eliza J. Nichols, eighty years later, gave the present tower-clock to the old "Church on the Hill." The Meeting House Hill cemetery, begun about 1807, contains the graves of Deacon Edward Southworth, a man of large affairs in his day; the Rev. Dan Taylor Bagg, who died in 1848, almost at the beginning of his pastorate of the Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York; the Rev. Pliny B. Day and the Rev. Moody Harrington. This also contains the town's handsome brownstone monument erected to the memory of 18 soldiers who died of wounds received in action and nine others who died of disease, all members of Company I, Tenth Massachusetts Regiment, in the Civil War.

Last Annual Report—The 1924 annual report of the town of West Springfield gives the following items of interest: The assessor reported the real estate valuation to be $20,246,331; personal estate, $3,582,274; total valuation almost $24,000,000. Assessed on valuation, $719,904; assessed on polls, $9,126; number of acres of land assessed, 8,971.

The town accountant reported receipts and expenditures for 1924, $2,735,673. The statement of debts gave a total of $2,039,000, of which amount $103,500 is due in 1925.

The school reports show for 1924 a total membership of 3,285. The high school enrollment was 590, as against 287 in 1915. The total number of schools in the town is thirteen, as follows: High School, Junior High, Main Street, Meadow Street, Bridge Street, Park Avenue, Mittineague, Tatham, Riverdale, John Ashley, Prospect Hill, Amostown, Town Hall.

The 1925 town officers include these: Moderator—Frank O. Scott; selectmen—Herman C. Walker, chairman; James M. Carroll, Charles O. Palmer, secretary; town clerk and treasurer—Henry E. Schmuck; tax-collector—Raymond M. Sweeney; assessors—Myron L. Brown, Arthur F. Royce, Fred C. Steele; school committee—Frank Auchter, chairman; Mabel Prescott Bowles, Harrison Loomis Hart, Jessie H. Gammie, Alexander Cormier, Jennie Alderman Rising; library trustees—Carrie J. Eldred, Robert D. White, Winthrop S. Bagg; tree-warden—George W. Hayden; finance committee—Walter H. Pierce, Raymond H. Flagg, Wilson B. Chandler, James F. McCarthy, Everett G. Robson, chairman; Arthur W. Mosher, John D. Riley; park commissioners—Herbert O. Scott, Adam W. Jentoch and Willis J. Eldred.

Industries—To inform the reader of what the industries in West Springfield were forty-five years ago, the following has been quoted from a volume published in 1879: The site of the present (1879) grist and saw mill has been greatly improved for more than one hundred years. A saw mill was there first erected by Baggs, Ashley and White. The mill later employed steam power. The tanneries at Ashleyville were once quite important, but have long since passed away. At about the first part of the nineteenth century there was more business carried on in the way of manufacturing than there was in Springfield. These were mostly located on Park street, where there was a hat factory, carried on as late as 1840, by Lester Williams. Farther up the street, at "New Boston," were located a large tannery, and a mill for cloth dressing, and still further up on the Agawam road was an extensive gin and brandy distillery. A dam was thrown across the Agawam at Mittineague Falls in 1840, furnishing power for several factories. The Agawam Canal Company built its cotton factory in 1848 on a $377,000 capital. Three hundred hands were employed at one time; Chester W. Chapin was president of this company. Other industries included the

Southworth Paper Company, makers of fine writing paper, produced by eighty men. The Agawam Paper Company was built in 1859, and fifty years ago, one and a half tons of fine grade writing paper was made daily. In the south part of town was made in large quantities cement-lined cast iron water pipe used by water companies all over the country. The Clark carriage and wagon shops did a large business at that date also. The Bartholomew steam saw mill and grist mill, at the center of the town, as well as the tanneries, all helped to swell the manufacturing interests a quarter and third of a century ago. Of the present industries of West Springfield it may be said that the list of industries today includes these: Automobile body manufactory; fibre box factory; brass foundry; card-board factory; cider and vinegar works; New England Smelting Works; Springfield Glazed Paper Company; Strathmore Paper Company; Valley Bronze Works; furniture factory; machinists and machine making works; Cogswell Manufacturing Company; Gilbert & Baker; Charles E. Wilson & Co.; Agawam Paper Company; Worthy Paper Company; patent medicine works; soap factory; saddlery hardware factory; toy manufactory; wire manufacturing works.

Churches—The first religious society formed here was the First Congregational Church, organized in June, 1698, two years after the Second parish was formed. The first pastor was Rev. John Woodbridge, who served it until released by death in 1718. He was a man of great learning. The first meeting-house was commenced in 1703 and finished in 1711.

The Park Street Congregational Church was organized with seventy-five members in 1871; a handsome brick church was built in 1872.

The Second Congregational Church was organized in 1850, located at the village of Mittineague.

The First Baptist Church on Main street was built in 1872. This church formerly belonged with the Springfield Baptist Church, and was made a separate society in 1874.

The Methodists commenced holding services in this place in 1841. In 1852 the church was removed to Mittineague village. Later it was used by the Second Congregational Society. It was burned in 1879 and rebuilt. The Church of the Good Shepherd (Episcopal) was built in 1870, at a cost of $10,000.

St. Thomas Church (Catholic), located at Mittineague, was

erected in 1870 at a cost of $15,000. It was a mission church of St. Michael's in Springfield until 1877.

The Church of The Immaculate Conception on Main street was erected in 1878.

The present churches in West Springfield are as follows: First Baptist, First Congregational, Episcopal, Methodist, three Roman Catholic, a Congregational church at Mittineague, and also a Methodist church at the last named village.

The Y. M. C. A. has a strong organization here.

Lodges—West Springfield has Masonic and Odd Fellow lodges, besides numerous beneficial societies.

Banks—The town has two excellent banks—the West Springfield Trust Company and the West Springfield Co-operative Bank.

Schools—The matter of schools was thought of very early here—indeed, before the Second parish had been set off from Springfield—and in 1654 appropriations were made to support schools within what is now West Springfield. Lands thus given were leased out and only the interest or income therefrom was available for school purposes. Soon after 1752 a schoolhouse was erected in the town. Schools, however, were kept in private houses twenty years before that. The school house was built on the commons; it was two stories high, the lower story being used for all but the more advanced scholars, who occupied the second story. The building depended on the two large fire-places, one in either end of the building, for the heat needed in winter time. In the eighties this building was used as a barn and was well preserved. Since then bettter buildings have obtained and schools have advanced with the growth of civilization. Other paragraphs treat of the present-day educational institutions.

Libraries commenced here in 1775, when one was founded by Rev. Mr. Lathrop, with forty subscribers. As already noted, it traveled from house to house, and the fifty-six volumes were conveyed in a basket! In 1807 the books were divided among the subscribers. A regular town library was established in 1855 containing 2,288 volumes. It was kept up by private as well as public expense. The town has never been without library facilities since then.

Among the newspapers published in West Springfield may be recalled these: The American Intelligencer, established in West Springfield August 15, 1795, by Richard Davidson, an Englishman. Edward Gray soon purchased the plant, which stood near the old meeting-house. With passing years several papers have been is-

sued here, but their story is of little historic value today.

Of the military of the town its citizens are justly proud. While other parts of this work refer to the part the town had in various wars, it is well to say in this connection that during the Civil War this town furnished 228 men; six were commissioned officers. Aside from State aid, the county paid over $36,000.

Town of Agawam—In the Indian dialect this word means "crooked river." This subdivision of the county is situated on the west bank of the Connecticut river, in the south tier of towns in Hampden county and the State, and is bounded on the north by West Springfield, on the south by Suffield in Connecticut, on the east by Springfield and Longmeadow, and on the west by Southwick and Westfield. It is separated from West Springfield by the Agawam river, and from Westfield and Southwick by the trap range. In size it is about five and a half miles east and west by four miles north and south, giving it an area of twenty-two square miles. In 1920 its population was given as 5,023. The surface is mostly one vast plain in the eastern and central portions, rising into rills to the west, culminating in the rugged trap range on the western line. The highest peak is 665 feet above the Connecticut river. The Agawam bottoms are subject to overflow. Springs and streams abound here and there throughout the domain. Three Mile or Trout Brook is in the east, and Philo and Still Brooks are in the southwest. Three Mile and Still Brooks furnish good water-power. The soil is usually a sand-loam in the level parts and clay and gravel on the uplands.

The Settlement—Agawam once having been a part of Springfield and West Springfield, its early settlement and history are naturally detailed in the history of each of these towns, hence needs but little on its settlement in this connection. Doubtless the two men, Cable and Woodcock, built the first house in Western Massachusetts within the present limits of Agawam town. Its location was on the south bank of the Agawam river a half mile from its mouth. It is not known whether these two men remained through the winter of 1635-36 or not. Without further evidence, let it rest that these two hardy pioneers were settlers ahead of any other white men in this town.

Incorporation—Agawam was incorporated as a town, May 17, 1855, by an act of the Massachusetts Legislature. The first town meeting was held June 12, 1855, and Orson Sweatland was mod-

erator. The parish of Agawam was erected from the Second parish of Springfield in 1757, as the Sixth parish of Springfield.

Churches—The religious element has always been strong in this part of the county. About 1790 a Baptist church was formed in Agawam by members formerly belonging to the church at Westfield. Rev. Jesse Wightman was the first minister. The First Congregational Church of Agawam was organized November 10, 1762, as the Sixth Church of Springfield. When West Springfield was set off, it became the Second Church of West Springfield, and again in 1855, when Agawam was organized as a town, it became the First Church. It was organized with nine members. The Methodist Episcopal Church was formed in 1802, by Father Washburn; it was evidently reorganized in 1844. The Second Congregational Church, located at Agawam Center, was organized September 1, 1819. The Adventists erected a small church on Feeding Hill Plains, in 1878. The French Catholic, "St. William's," in the Agawam portion of Mittineague village, was built in 1874 at a cost of $4,000. This church sprung up as a result of the establishing of the great Agawam Cotton Mills. Many of the men and their families who found employment in these mills were of the Catholic faith.

The town had no Town Hall, but rented rooms until 1874, when measures were taken to provide a public or town hall. Both Agawam district and Feeding Hills desired to have the hall located there while Agawam district claimed its location at the "center," until it was finally voted to erect one in each place, to be used for town and public meetings, and for the higher grade of public schools. So it was that two handsome brick buildings were built, the one at Agawam costing $15,000, while the other cost $13,000. This proved to be but the part of wisdom.

Manufacturing Interests—The first industry was the saw mill put in operation on Ensign Cooper's tract in 1666. A bonus of forty acres of land went with the mill site. It is believed this mill stood where later was erected the Farrar Mills on Three Mile Brook.

About 1810 Thomas Belden of Hartford, in company with Amos Ambrose and others, built a cotton factory. Yarn was spun and sent to neighboring women, who wove it into cloth. It ceased to operate after 1825. Other mills were built at Agawam Center, on the same creek, about 1832 by Leonard & Parmenter. Both cotton and woolen goods were produced. Later, on account of back-water of the Connecticut, the plant was removed to Palmer. Still later it was turned into a wall-paper factory. About 1812 Calvin and Jus-

tus Bedortha commenced the manufacture of broadcloth, but at the end of the War of 1812 business declined. May, 1857, the great Agawam Company was formed, and all through the Civil War the supply could not meet the demand, and the South Hadley Mill was purchased to help out. In the seventies the Worthy Paper Company was located on the old site used two centuries before by the pioneer grist-mill, on the Agawam, opposite Mittineague. Fifty men were employed in 1879 and 3,500 pounds of stock was daily used in producing blank-book and writing paper. The company seems to have started in 1872 with a $100,000 capital.

The Agawam Distillery was established in 1801 by E. Porter. At first it was used to distill peppermint; later for making whiskey out of potatoes. Then it was used to make gin and malt from rye and corn, its capacity being 312 gallons of gin per day. But time has changed many things in New England, as well as all over the globe, and no such plants are now legalized in this country.

Town of Montgomery—This is one of the smallest towns in Hampden county, counting size as well as population. Its total area is 8,657 acres. It had a population of 229 in 1920. It is bounded on the north by Huntington, in Hampshire county; Westfield and Russell on the south, Southampton and Westfield on the east, and Russell and Huntington on the west. Russell village, four miles from Montgomery Center, is the nearest railway station. Among the noble and towering hills may be seen Mount Tekoa and Mount Shatterack. Rich woodlands cover the uneven surface. The natural scenery is beautiful to behold. There are several useful mill-streams, such as Moose Meadow, Shatterack, Bear Den and Roaring Brook, but no large water courses.

Pioneer Settlement—A portion of Montgomery town formerly was included in the town of Westfield, in that portion styled "The New Addition." If settlers came earlier to these parts than 1767, there appears no record of that fact. During that year Ephraim Avery removed thither with his family and built the first frame house seen in the town. It was still standing in 1880, on the highway between Montgomery and Westfield. Other early settlers were Captain Sylvester Squier; Oliver Clark settled in 1767; Aaron Parks, a noted man of his day, married three times and had a number of sons and daughters. Another pioneer family was that of which Allen Pettis was a member.

Montgomery was incorporated in 1780, during the stormiest days

of the Revolution, and one of the first duties it had to perform was to raise volunteers and equip them. While the town upheld the cause of liberty in the struggle for independence, she was not friendly toward the War of 1812.

Organic—Montgomery was incorporated as a town November 28, 1780, and was named for General Richard Montgomery, who fell at Quebec in 1775. Originally it was a portion of "The New Addition." It was highly prized for its superior building stone. The act of incorporation was passed by the General Court in response to a petition urged by the settlers in that part of Westfield, who deemed themselves inconveniently situated. In 1792 small portions of the towns of Norwich and Southampton, now in Hampshire county, were added, and as thus made the town as seen today. The first town meeting for election of officers was held December 14, 1780, at the house of Zadock Bosworth.

Without a Village—This is another subdivision of the county without a single regular village. The nearest approach to one is the collection of houses—dwellings, postoffice, town-hall, two churches —in the center of the town. But stores and hotels are not there to be found. The people have long marketed at Westfield. However, the rural scenes are charming to behold. The many well tilled farms and the tasty farm-houses and barn-yards each and all give evidence of thrift and real contentment.

Churches and Schools—For the object of "promoting preaching in this town," in December after the town was legally incorporated, six pounds were appropriated by the town, showing that their hearts were in the right place! In 1783 the town directed to employ Rev. John Ballentine to preach twenty Sabbaths at $2.00 each Sabbath, a son of Rev. John Ballentine, who was the pastor of the Congregational church in Westfield from 1741 to 1776. In 1797, a Congregational church society was formed, and it included only the names of five men. Long after the Civil War this church went down and its building was occupied by the Adventist church. The Methodist church was erected in 1849, at the town center, opposite the First Church. The Methodists for all these years have kept up services during the summer months, but not always during wintertime.

As to early schools, the record of this town is unlike most New England towns where education has ever been highly prized. Here the town fathers voted right after the Revolution, "No money be raised for the encouragement of a school." In 1786 the authorities were cited before the General Court for this wanton neglect. This

set in motion a new plan and ever since the schools have flourished as in other towns of the county. Many districts and a schoolhouse in each has been the rule many years.

The town sent twenty-five men to the Civil War and in all subsequent strifes has filled her quota easily.

Farming is the chief calling of this people. Their excellent timber, such as walnut, oak, chestnut, beech, birch, maple, and hemlock, has been of great financial service to the owners of the lands of the town.

Town of Russell—This is among the smaller towns within Hampden county. It is bounded on the north by Montgomery, on the south by Granville, on the east by Westfield and on the west by Blandford. Its surface is made up of hills and valleys like many another part of the county. Its numerous streams furnish plenty of water-power for several factories. The town's area is 8,430 acres, of which a goodly part is woodland. Its population in 1920 was 1,237. Its railway is the Boston and Albany, with stations at Woronoco and Russell. The streams include the Westfield river, a shallow stream which winds its way through the territory, adding beauty to the landscape. For many years this has been a favorite spot for tourists and travelers, who delight in the altitude of the higher lands and in the sparkling waters and woodland scenery. Among the minerals here found in small quantities are galena and copper pyrites. The black Serpentine rock, or Little Tekoa, was extensively quarried forty and more years ago. In the center of the town, on the top of a mountain, there is a handsome sheet of water, earlier known as the Hazard Pond, now Russell Pond. A quarter of a century ago this was a wonderful place to go fishing with the happy results of a "sure catch."

Early Settlement—This town was originally a portion of Westfield and constituted a part of the tract called "New Addition." In 1782 Russell was set off from Westfield, and incorporated February 29, that year. Among the first to settle these parts were two brothers named Barber and a Mr. Gray, who located on Glasgow Mountain. Later came in a large number, including the Palmers, Bishops, Parks, Bronsons, Finneys, Stebbins, Bradleys, Thomas Field, Daniel and Andrew Mallory, Samuel Williams, Jacob Loomis, Robert Hazard, Abel Tuttle, Samuel Chapman, Jesse Newton and Seth Gridley.

Samuel Chapman was the father of Reuben A. Chapman, who leaving Russell at the age of manhood, afterward became chief-jus-

tice of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts. He died while on a tour in Europe in 1875.

Organization—Russell was incorporated February 25, 1792. The town derived its name from a Mr. Russell of Boston, upon his agreeing to donate a bell for the first church erected by the inhabitants. It seems, for some reason, the bell never came, but the town was named in his honor. The earliest town records are incomplete and for a number of years are entirely missing. The subjoined is an account of the town in 1924-25, showing who its present officers are and other items of local interest:

Town Statistics—The assessors' report for the town of Russell for 1924 gave the following items of some historic interest: The assessed valuation on real estate within the town was $29,973; on personal property, $14,290; on 397 polls, $794; appropriation from revenue, $40,806; tax-rate was $15.00 per thousand dollars. Number horses assessed in town, 51; cows, 96; sheep, 34; neat cattle, 60; swine, 8; dwellings, 241; number of acres of land, 9,802; number fowls assessed, 1,015.

The last balance sheet shows assets and liabilities amounting to $23,662, with a net bonded indebtedness of $169,000.

The superintendent's report of the public schools gave these figures as to pupils in the various schools, December 19, 1924: Grades one to eight—Woronoco, 107; Russell Village, 107; Crescent Mills, 24; Russell Mountain, 20; total, 258.

The following is a list of the present (1925) town officers: Town clerk—E. D. Parks; selectmen—Eugene D. Parks, Frank C. Preston, Charles E. Wyman; assessors—E. D. Parks, Fred L. Bolner, Walter C. Wingate; treasurer—Grant C. Brown; school committee—James Walkinshaw, James C. Buffurn, Morris Losser; electric light board—Frank H. Miller, Frank A. Helmes and Asa L. Stines.

Villages—One of the villages or hamlets of this town is Russell, a station of the Boston & Albany railway, on the Westfield river. The following was said of it forty years ago: "Here are two churches, the town-hall, an excellent district school, hotel, postoffice, two small stores, and a few small factories. A large tannery was there for years until in the seventies it burned. The village numbers about two hundred inhabitants. There are two settlements on the Westfield river, near Russell village; one, two miles south at the Laflin Paper Mill, and one two miles northwest, at the Chapin-Gould Paper Mill. About two hundred people reside at these two factory points."

Outside of the building up of Woronoco with its population of over 500 in 1920 but little improvement has been made in this town with the passing years. Westfield river furnishes the water-power for the paper factory plants, where half a century ago more than one hundred men and women were constantly employed making an extra fine grade of paper at the Salmon Falls factory, now Woronoco, which had a capital of $250,000.

The Chapin and Gould Paper Company was established in 1858 and its mill was destroyed by fire in 1870, but at once replaced by a larger one. It was the mainstay in the way of commercial importance in this town. The products of the seventy-five farms of this town are mostly all consumed at home.

Churches and Schools—It appears from the absence of church records in connection with the town official records (according to the common custom in all New England), that the town did not stand sponsor for religion, but left that matter entirely to those who cared to form and support churches. One record shows that the Second Baptist Church in Westfield, begun June, 1786, under Elder Ebenezer Stowe, built a meeting-house in 1792 in the village of Russell, but in 1811 it appears the church went down, and in 1816 was revived and Elder Asa Todd became pastor. The First Congregational Church was formed November, 1800, and had fifteen charter members. It was also dissolved in 1830. The Congregationalists and Methodists erected a church building near the center of the town, about 1820, and used it in common, under the name of "Union Society." In 1869 the Methodists of Russell reorganized and built a neat church edifice.

The common schools commenced, as seen by records, in 1804, and at that date two schoolhouses were built; one at, or near, Robert Hazard's house, and one on the mountain, in the southern section. In 1878 the town was working under five school districts, each having its own school. The present total number of scholars in the town is 258. See report elsewhere.

Town of Southwick—Southwick lies in the second tier of towns to the west of the Connecticut river, and is bounded on the north by Westfield, on the south by the State of Connecticut, on the east by Agawam, in Massachusets, and Suffield, in Connecticut, and on the west by Granville, and Granby in Connecticut.

The portion of the tract projecting beyond the direct boundary between Massachusetts and Connecticut embraced originally a tract extending as far east as the present line between Southwick and

Agawam. This tract was in dispute between the two states as late as 1800, and was then settled by the Legislature. The area of the projecting tract was equal to six square miles. The New Haven and Northampton railway touches this town on the east, at Southwick village, four miles from Westfield.

The town has few streams, but a number of handsome ponds. The only eminence of note is Sodom Mountain, in the western part, at whose base flows Munn's Brook, the only stream of consequence in the town.

Settlement—The first settlement did not begin, properly speaking, until 1706, when it was incorporated as a district. Before that date it was a part of Westfield, and a history of its early settlement will appear in the history of that town. Numerous records point to the fact that probably the first actual settler was Samuel Fowler, in 1734, in the north section.

Organic—Southwick, once a portion of Westfield, was incorporated as a district in 1770, and as a town in 1779. All records of district meetings from 1770 to 1775 have long since been destroyed and the list of all town officers from the last date to the present is too lengthy to here insert, hence the reader will only be given the names and a few items from the last annual report of town officers, as follows:

Statistics for Town of Southwick, 1924-25—The town treasurer reported for 1924 as follows: Cash on hand, January 1, 1924, $1,298.69; receipts for year, $113,684.35; cash on hand, January 1, 1925, $15,059.14. Taxes outstanding, January 1, 1925, $14,733.41. The assessors reported real estate valuation, $1,472,850; personal property, $260,850; number polls assessed, 404; tax-rate per thousand, $19.50; acres land assessed, 18,507; number dwellings, 437; cows assessed, 888; neat cattle other than cows, 177; swine, 32; sheep, 9; fowls, 4,561; horses assessed, 290.

Educational interests, including the public library at the close of 1924, were as follows: Number books in library, 4,034; books January 1, 1925, 4,187; the librarian was at the date given Musetta A. Phelps. The total enrollment in the public schools was 318; boys, 156; girls, 162; average membership, 257; the number of schools of the town was eleven, as follows: Comgamond, Hillside, Loomis Street, Mooretown, North Longyard, Pleasant Street, Point Grove, Root District, South Longyard, Village schools, Vining Hill. The amount expended for transportation for high school pupils was for the last year, $4,127; for teachers' salaries, $14,390.

The 1925 town officers are: Town clerk—Jennie L. McAuliffe; selectmen—William S. Barnes, chairman; George W. Phelps, Kenneth E. Gillett; treasurer and collector—Clyde H. Treworgy; assessors—George H. Phelps, chairman; John F. Malone, Carl A. Anderson; constables—Eric H. Anderson, Joseph A. Moorehouse.

Village of Southwick—Southwick is the only village in this town; it is a station point on the New Haven and Northampton railroad. It is situated on a pretty level plain, resting beneath the shadows of the high hills that range along the town's western border. The following was the pen picture of the village forty-five years ago: "Here are two churches—Congregational and Baptist; a hotel, two stores, a postoffice, a town-hall, academy, powder-mill, grist-mill, and near seventy-five good dwellings. Two miles south of this village is Gillets Corners, where there is a church, a cigar factory, and small collection of houses. Thrift and industry seem stamped on all the surroundings of these villages."

Churches—The Congregational church was organized here in 1773. The first pastor was Rev. Abel Forward, who died in 1786. The first church building was erected about 1773 one mile south of what is now the village of Southwick, near the cemetery. The Baptists of the town having no meeting-house of their own, used the Congregational meeting-house, but, refusing to pay their pro rata of church and minister taxes, in a few years were made to do so. In 1805 the Baptists formed a church of their own and in 1822 they built a church edifice and in the seventies the society numbered 165 communicants.

The Methodist Episcopal church in Southwick was organized in 1816, by only six members, under Rev. David Miller. The society had no building or regular preaching services until 1825, when it came into possession of the building erected by the Congregationalists at Gillet's Corners in 1824. In 1842 this church was made a regular station, since which time regular ministers have been sent by the Conference each year to have charge of it.

Nothing is known of the first schools of this town, but with later years the standard of other Hampden county common schools was obtained. (See town's annual report on schools for today.)

The only secret society formed in this town was the Southwick Grange No. 46, organized in 1874, numbering sixty members.

Farming and especially stock growing has been the chief vocation of the people of this town for many years. Just fifty years ago the assessor's reports showed the town produced $228,000 worth of

agricultural products, against $49,000 of manufactured products, mostly blasting powder and cigars.

One hundred and eleven soldiers volunteered from this town in the Civil War period.

Town of Blandford—Blandford is one of the extreme western towns in Hampden county, as well as one of the most elevated portions topographically. It is situated on the summit of the east range of the Green Mountains, which extends through Vermont and Massachusetts. It is bounded on the north by Chester and Huntington, on the south by Granville and Tolland, on the east by Russell, and on the west by Otis, in Berkshire county. It has an area of 30.427 acres, and in 1920 had a population of 479, not more than one-half of its population in 1875. This is accounted for by the large number of families which went west in search of cheap lands, this emigration beginning soon after the close of the Civil War. The natural features here abound in wild romantic scenery, and the changes from summer to autumn and from autumn to winter, produce a wonderful landscape scene which nothing but the eye can appreciate—words are inadequate. Mountain streams are plentiful, yet none are large rivers. Dug Hill, near the center of the town, is 1,622 feet high, while Jackson's Hill, in the southwest, is much higher. At the foot of Green Mountain is a sulphur spring. Then there are Tarrot Hill, Beach Hill and lesser elevations.

Settlement—The General Court granted the lands within this town to certain proprietors of common and undivided lands in Suffield, Connecticut, as an equivalent for a tract taken from them in establishing the dividing line between the two states. Soon thereafter the proprietors conveyed the tract to Jacob Lawton, and he, in 1735, sold three-fourths of it to Francis Wells, John Faye, and Francis Brindley. The first settler to arrive with his family was Hugh Black, in the autumn of 1735, and he erected a dwelling-house. He was followed soon by James Baird. Later settlers included Messrs. McClintock, Taggart, Brown, Anderson, Hamilton, Wells, Blair, Stewart, Montgomery, Boies, Ferguson, Campbell, Sennett, Young, Knox, and Gibbs. The first settlers were styled Scotch-Irish, from the fact that their ancestors moved from Scotland to Ireland, their descendants coming to America in 1727, settling in Sudbury, Massachusetts.

Interesting Incidents—This town was ordered divided into eight garrisons, in May, 1744; four of these were respectively at the houses of John Stewart, Israel Gibbs, Lieut. William Knox and

James Clintock. This was during the Indian troubles of the French and Indian War. Blandford suffered somewhat from Indian ravages, but the location of such a number of forts was a great safeguard to settlers.

The pioneers of this town were quite poverty stricken at one time and were forced to ask appropriations from the General Court. They often had their annual taxes remitted, too. But the matter of temperance had not yet occurred to these people, for nearly all drank when they could obtain strong drinks and every family had plenty of "Syder." The records show that Deacon Israel Gibbs furnished members of an ordaining church council rum and sugar, and he was ordered to be paid therefor the first cost thereof. Not until after 1837 did the matter of total abstinence ever dawn on the people of Blandford. But, in this respect it did not materially differ from many other parts of New England.

Organization—This town was incorporated November 10, 1741, and took its name from Blandford, the name of the ship in which Governor William Shirley sailed to this country. The settlers really desired to name the town Glasgow, from which the forefathers had come. They had been promised a church bell if they would name it Glasgow, but the governor and his notions obtained, hence we have Blandford. The town had its struggles and finally came out into the light of peace and prosperity. Its local affairs have usually been well managed by its town officials, the list of whose names is too lengthy to give here.

Statistical for 1924-25—The town report for Blandford for the year ending January 1, 1925, contains these items: Value of real estate, $782,000; personal property, $226,554; tax rate per thousand, $25.50; residents assessed on property, 199; non-residents assessed, 126; number of polls assessed, 170; dwellings assessed, 228; acres of land, 32,460; horses assessed, 180; cows, 305; sheep, 230; swine, 22; fowls, 3,660.

The town accountant reports receipts, cash on hand, January 1, 1924, $4,654; cash on hand January 1, 1925, $3,225; total receipts, $90,274; total payments, $87,038.

The superintendent of schools reports census enumeration in April, 1924: Male, 57; female, 46; total number scholars, 103. The five schools are Center Grammar, Center Primary, Second Division, Taggart, Blandford; total number teachers, six; total number pupils attending, 97; average, 65; number visitors, 102.

The town officers for 1925 are as follows: Town clerk—Frances

E. Shepard; selectmen—C. W. Bates, chairman; H. L. Wyman, A. M. Ritter; assessors—W. V. Bodurtha, M. J. Raymond, E. A. Shepard; school committee—F. B. Cook, R. L. Blair, Mrs. F. C. Knittel; treasurer and collector—C. R. Ripley; tree warden—M. R. Haley; moderator—Joseph P. Haley; library trustees—Mrs. A. H. Smith, Mrs. L. Cooley.

Villages—The two villages of this town are Blandford Center and North Blandford. Blandford Center is situated at the first place of settlement. In 1875 this village had about three hundred inhabitants; the U. S. census in 1920 gave it 489, including the outlying township. Two churches, a hotel, two stores, a postoffice, a school, fair-grounds and two cemeteries make up the village in later years. North Blandford is three miles from the town's center, and a half century ago was somewhat of a manufacturing place. In 1880 this village had lost much of its former business, but the record shows they still had a cattle-card factory, a tannery, a church, a school, two stores, postoffice, and a population of three hundred. With time these two villages have declined rather than advanced commercially.

Churches—Much of the business transacted in early town meetings was that connected with church welfare, the raising of money for the building of a church or support of the ministry. The first meeting-house was erected in 1740, by the original town proprietors. Specifications called for "glass windows," but they were not supplied for twelve years. For thirteen years the church had no floors, save a few loose boards, the earth and rocks. The seats were blocks sawed from the end of logs; the pulpit was nothing but a square box. The building was first plastered in 1786 and was not completed until 1805, thirty-six years after it was commenced. Originally this was a Presbyterian church, but in 1800 it was changed to Congregational.

Methodism first began its history in Blandford when a church was built in North Blandford village in 1845. Another church of this denomination was formed at Beach Hill, but later was discontinued.

The Baptist society was organized in 1826, but never built a meeting-house, and was only in existence down to 1848.

The Episcopal church of Blandford is said to have been formed when the Congregational minister, Mr. Badger, who preached "unconditional election," and many members withdrew and formed the Episcopal church. No edifice was provided until 1830, when they

built one on the road to Chester, a mile and a half from Blandford Center. The building was torn down in 1870, only a handful of members being enrolled at that time.

Industries—As late as 1860, this town had numerous industries, including woolen-mills, paper-mills, tanneries, etc., but all have been abandoned. Stock-raising and dairying have been the chief means of support of the citizens for many years. Grain has been imported instead of exported from Blandford.

Town of Granville—This is one of the southwestern towns of the county, situated on one of the Green Mountains in a region of fertile hills, with an occasional valley. It is bounded on the north by Blandford and Russell, the Connecticut State line on the south, Southwick on the east, and Tolland on the west. Its area is 23,650 acres, of which a large percentage forty years ago was listed "most valuable timber land." Southwick village, five miles from Granville Corners, is the nearest railroad station.

Natural Features—This town is highly elevated, hence has long been noted for its pure, health-giving atmosphere. An early sanitary record says that during a period of fifty years, between 1760 and 1810, one out of every thirty persons reached the age of ninety years. Winchell's Mountain of this town is 1,362 feet above sea-level. Liberty Hill, where a liberty pole was raised during the Revolution, South Mountain and others have high altitudes. The largest stream is Valley Brook, flowing from north to south. The scenery of Granville is exceptionally fine. From Winchell's Mountain a view upon a clear day can be had of forty church spires in the Connecticut Valley.

Settlement—In 1686 the territory now embraced in Granville and Tolland towns was possessed by Toto, the Indian chief, who that year sold to James Cornish of Westfield for one gun and sixteen brass buttons the entire tract of land. William Fuller bought a portion of the tract in 1713; the property was transferred to Atherton Mather, who sold it to a company of proprietors in 1718. The last purchase was not confirmed by the General Court until 1739. The tract was fifteen miles in length, seven miles wide at the western end, five miles wide on the east, and covered an area of 41,200 acres. Settlers commenced to locate there as early as 1736. The first one to invade the wilderness for actual settlement was Samuel Bancroft, of West Springfield, who moved in with his family in 1736. When Granville was incorporated, in 1754, it was known as Bradford.

That the pioneer band were true patriots is amply proved by the fact that upon the Lexington Alarm in 1775 Granvile mustered sixty men and promptly responded under Captain Lebbeus Ball, whose first lieutenant was Lemuel Bancroft, of Southwick. To this company was given one pound sterling for each man, as an encouragement. In 1776 another company was sent, consisting of one hundred men. In the time of the War of 1812-14 this town was not in sympathy with the movement of a second conflict with Great Britain.

Organization—As a district, Granville was incorporated January 25, 1754, and under the act of 1786 became a town in the latter year. This district was named in honor of John Carteret, Earl of Granville. The territory was incorporated in 1754, measured fifteen miles in length by about six in width. In 1810 a considerable tract on the west was set off and incorporated as the town of Tolland. The town is now in possession of records showing a list of all town officers from 1797, but prior to that the books are missing. At any rate, the number is all too lengthy for use in this connection. However, the present officers are here listed, together with a few important facts about the present local town government, as will be observed below:

Granville Annual Report—The 1924 report shows the town treasurer received from all sources $57,950 and paid out for the year the sum of $57,950, less cash on hand December 31, 1924, $921.38.

The school committee reported in their summary expenditures to the amount of $12,773.71, of which amount $3,496.94 was for transportation and teachers' salaries, $5,726. The five schools of the town are Beech Hill, Ore Hill, South Lane, Village with grades 1, 4, 5, 9. Total enrollment, 132; average membership, 108; average attendance, 98.

Villages—There are three villages, so-called, in this town: East Granville, West Granville, and Granville Corners. East Granville is the seat of the original settlement. Here naturally was located the church, the postoffice, the town-hall, a store and about forty dwellings, and these were there forty-five years ago in excellent condition. The old pioneer tavern was there, but long since its doors were closed to the weary traveling public and it was used as a private residence.

What was originally Middle Granville is now known as West Granville, and what is now known as Tolland was "West Granville." The last named village is handsomely situated four miles

west of East Granville. It had a quarter of a century ago about the same interests in the way of stores, shops and church-school advantages as did East Granville, and have lessened since then. There was in 1920 only 655 population in the entire town of Granville, including the several villages.

Granville Corners (Jockey Corners) stands a mile east of East Granville. It has a few hundred population, and is in many ways an important part of the town, as there for many years have been located two extensive drum factories and other factory interests.

Churches—A Congregational church was organized about 1747 at what is now East Granville, and soon after a church building was erected there. The first pastor was Rev. Moses Tuttle. During the Revolutionary War the church was without a pastor, but in 1795 came Rev. Timothy M. Cooley. A new church edifice was erected in 1802 and the first one taken down.

The Second Congregational Church was organized in 1781—Rev. Aaron J. Booge, pastor—was ordained in 1786, but no edifice was built until 1788. The Baptist church was really the outgrowth of dissensions in the First Congregational Church, from which many withdrew as "Separatists." In 1791 they formed the Baptist church at Granville Corners, and in 1800 erected a house in which to worship, supplanted in 1848 by a new church building.

A Universalist church was formed at Granville Corners in 1863, in which year a neat building was erected, but the society never had a large membership.

Industries—While this town is not noted for its factories, at times there have been paying ones in operation, like the two drum factories at Granville Corners already named. Here Noble & Cooley commenced drum-making in 1855 and once employed sixty workmen and made $50,000 worth of drums annually. They also made various toys. The favorite woods used were basswood and poplar.

Town of Tolland—The extreme southwestern corner of Hampden county is known as Tolland. It is one of the smallest of its twenty-three towns. It is bounded on the north by Blandford and Otis, the Connecticut State line on the south, Granville on the east, and Berkshire couny on the west. The town is almost entirely covered with hills and mountains. On its western border flows Farmington river, and there are also a few more streams to furnish water-power if needed. It is believed the highest point of elevation between the Connecticut and Housatonic rivers is where the Tolland

Center church stands. Woodland has ever been plentiful in this town and many varieties are found. The natural scenery is rich and rugged when seen from almost any angle and at any time of the year. In autumn in colored robes of beauty, it is indeed charming.

Settlement—This town originally belonged in Granville, but in 1810 it was changed. Settlements were here effected in 1750 by Titus Fowler, Thomas Twining, David Slocomb, Ebenezer Harding, Marvin Moore and probably a dozen more pioneers. The house erected by Titus Fowler is supposed to be the oldest in the town; it is at Tolland Center.

Organization of the Town—This is among the newest towns in Hampden county, if not in Massachusetts. It dates back only to 1810, when it was incorporated as a town, after having been set off from the town of Granville. To the time of its incorporation it was called West Granville, or third parish of that town. The fire at Northampton has deprived the reader of much of interest concerning this town, as in it the town records between 1810 and 1849 were burned. No attempt will be made to give lists of officers further than those of 1924-25 and a few items from recent town officers' reports which will appear later in this sketch of the town.

Villages—The town government seat is at Tolland Centre, a small hamlet of a few dozen buildings on the highest elevation of the village plat. A postoffice was long ago established there; also a store, a town-hall and a church—the only one there during the life of the town. The total population is placed in the census of 1920 at one hundred and ninety-two

The church referred to is the Congregational, organized in 1795. At about the same date a neat church edifice was erected. A pastor was ordained (Roger Harrison) in 1798. A Baptist church was formed in the "south quarter" in 1830, but no building was ever erected.

In 1879 this town had eight district schools, which were not far advanced, but have improved since.

The present town officers include these: Town clerk—Wilbert Munn; treasurer—same as clerk; selectmen—Lyman Clark, Frank B. Demmy, James R. Jackson; collector—John R. Rogers; constable—Rupert E. Clark; assessors—Alexander Berenk, George Clark, Emil Klemme; school committee—Lillian Clark, Ethel Nixon.

Town of Chester—Chester, with a population of 1,302 in 1920, is a flourishing town of Hampden county and occupies its extreme

northwestern corner. Its area is 20,507 acres of hill, plane and woodland. At its north lies Worthington and Middlefield in Hampshire county; Blandford on the south, Huntington (Hampshire county) on the east; and Becket (Berkshire county) on the west. Through its southwestern portion passes the Boston and Albany Railroad line.

This town is located within one of nature's beauty spots, its scenery at all seasons of the year is wonderful to behold. The Westfield river at Huntington is fed by three branches, two of which flow through Chester—the Western and the Middle. Most of the surface is made of a series of hills. The woodlands furnish a great variety of valuable timber, including birch, beech, maple and other varieties known to New England. Geologists says this town has a greater variety of minerals than any other in the commonwealth. These include emery-rock, mica-slate, soapstone, gneiss, quartz, magnetic-iron, and hornblende.

Settlement—June, 1762, the colony of Massachusetts needing ready cash, the General Court issued an order for the sale of ten townships of land, and of these the one designated as No. 9 was sold to William Williams, for the sum of 1,500 pounds sterling. This tract embraced within it the present town of Chester. Soon afterward it was transferred to John Murray, Abijah Willard, Timothy Paine, and John Chandler, who were the proprietors of the town of Chester. The tract also contained Huntington and a part of Middlefield, having an aggregate of 32,000 acres. In January, 1763, there being already nineteen settlers in the town, the proprietors held a meeting and agreed to admit settlers upon the land on certain conditions, including the building of a house of a given size, clearing off at least seven acres of land, settling a minister of the Protestant faith, etc., and then each one was to have one hundred acres of land. One hundred lots were granted on these conditions and fifty-one settlers were soon on the ground. The original grant contained 24,700 acres, to which 1,200 acres more were added on account of a large pond on the first tract. The good man of the family in going to church went on horseback, and in some cases the family horse, mounted with a pillion, carried the man and wife, and perhaps a child or two. Among the more prominent settlers were these: The Bell family, Rufus Tinker, the Hollands, Deacon Stephen Lyman, Timothy Lyman, his brother, Zenas Searle, and others whose names are well known within the town today in their offspring.

Noteworthy Incidents—It is related that a party of prisoners taken by the Americans by Burgoyne's surrender halted at what is now Chester Center en route to Boston, and were confined in the Congregational church for the night. Among the inhabitants who assembled for a curious glance at them was pretty Fannie Holland, from the north end, and it appears that her charms so smote one of the prisoners, David Cross, a Scotchman, that upon his arrival at Worcester he managed to escape from imprisonment by means of a forged pass, made his way back to Chester, sought out Fannie, became her suitor, and eventually won her for his bride. This couple later removed to Washington, Massachusetts, where they lived happily and much respected to a good old age.

In 1790 a girl named Becky Tyler, living in Chester, murdered her child to conceal her own shame, and for the crime she was, not long afterward, hung at Northampton. In 1790 another girl, betrayed by some early settler, committed suicide, and, according to an old English law, her body was buried on the public highway, in the old village of Chester, at the nearest cross-roads, and there, it is likely, her remains lie at this time.

Organization—This town was incorporated October 31, 1765, under the name of Murrayfield, in honor of John Murray, one of the town's proprietors. He was a Tory and when the war came on he was naturally not liked by his fellow neighbors, and returned to England, his land, of course, being confiscated. In 1775 the people voted to change the town's name to Mount Asaph, but this was rejected by the Court, and in 1783 it appears to have taken the name of Chester, after leaving it to the General Court, and suggesting three names—Fairmount, Fairfield and Chester. The last name was chosen in compliment to Chester, England.

In 1783 a small tract in the northern section was transferred to what is now Middlefield, and in 1853 Chester village was set off to what is now the town of Huntington, the new name given to the old town of Norwich.

Town Reports for 1924-25—The town clerk of Chester reported as follows: Value of real estate, $948,655; personal property, $253,650; number of polls assessed, 492; number of residents assessed on property, 358; non-residents assessed, 113; poll tax only, 133; number dwellings in the town assessed, 366; horses, 136; cows, 266; sheep, 109; cattle other than cows, 93; swine, 24; number fowls, 2,073; acres of land assessed, 21,488.

The treasurer's report shows for 1924-25 the following: Receipts and disbursements for 1924, $127,427.

The thirty-first annual report of the Chester Public Library shows the number of books loaned during the year, 8,335.

The public schools are in a flourishing condition. During 1924 there was paid for teachers' salaries, $11,840; supplies, $868; fuel, $569; several other items making a total expenditure of $17,049 in the graded schools. In the high schools the salaries amounted to $6,616; supplies, $888; fuel, $1,498; total outlay, $11,223. For its population, Chester has a larger average attendance than any town in Massachusetts and only a few under 2,000 population have an equal average attendance.

Town Officers for 1925—Town clerk—John E. Cooney; treasurer—Seigle H. Shafer; selectmen—John E. Cooney (chairman), Frank Whitcher, Leon J. Kelso; assessors—William H. Stevens (chairman), John E. Cooney, Byron E. Pease; tax collector—Frank Cornoni; auditor—Mrs. Mildred A. Murtough; superintendent of schools—William E. Hebbard; tree warden—John E. Cooney; school committee—Charles Pease, chairman; Thomas N. Haley, Frank Fay, Thomas Rose, Samuel J. Donnelly, Erland Sword.

Villages—The villages in Chester are five in number, as follows: Chester (first known as Chester Factories), Chester Center (originally Chester), North Chester, Littleville and Dayville. Chester Village is a station on the Boston & Albany Railroad, and is also located on Westfield river, with a fine water-power. Its population in 1920 was 400. Forty or fifty years ago it contained two emery factories, a mica plant, a tannery and bedstead factory. It was the seat of two churches and the town hall.

Chester Center is the scene of the earliest settlements of the town. It was until 1870 known as Chester, and was then the seat of justice for town government. The manufacturing interests in the other village drew most of its business thither and left the Center with a small collection of houses and a few commercial interests.

Littlefield, North Center and Dayville are other community centers in Chester town. At one time Dayville had two shoe-peg factories, but such articles are not in great demand, as the sewing machine has taken the lead and the wooden peg is almost a relic.

The Churches—The earliest meeting-house was erected in 1766; it was forty by forty-five feet in size. It was not completed until 1770. A Congregational church was organized in December, 1769, and Rev. Aaron Bascom, a Harvard graduate, was called as first

pastor. The church was built at what is now Chester Center. In 1794 the old church was torn down and a new one erected. The first minister served forty-five years. In 1800 about one hundred Methodists in this vicinity formed a class; later there were more classes and finally a church was organized and preachers came from Granville circuit up to 1842. At Chester Factory a union church edifice was erected with the Baptists. In 1847 the Methodists built a church of their own. Methodism also flourished at an early day at Chester village (now a part of Huntington), but in 1836 it was not very prosperous and finally went down. The Second Congregational Church was organized in 1844, at what is now the village of Chester. The Second Day Advent Church of North Center was completed in 1878.

The Congregational church seems now to take the lead in this part of the county.

Up to the date of the War of 1812, glass was made successfully in this town by using sand from Berkshire county, but after that date the home glass company could not compete with England.

Other sections of this volume will treat on the military interest taken by the citizens of this town in the various conflicts in which the county took part.

CHAPTER IX

EASTERN TOWNS OF THE COUNTY

Palmer—There are twenty-two civil sub-divisions or towns within Hampden county, and Palmer is the extreme northeastern town in the county. Its population in 1924 was 9,896. Its boundary is irregular and it is south of Belchertown and Ware in Hampshire county and is bounded on the south by Monson, Hampden county; east by the towns of Warren, Worcester county, and Brimfield, Hampden county; and west by the towns of Wilbraham, Hampden county, and Belchertown, Hampshire county. It contains 17,216 acres of land.

The general topography is rough, though many fine valleys are found. The streams that ever make glad the heart of man are indeed abundant and are sufficient to give a fine water-power for manufacturing interests. These streams include Swift river, Ware river, the Quaboag river and Chicopee, each having good-sized tributaries.

The Boston and Albany Railroad was built to the town in 1840, after which the advancement and prosperity was very marked. That which was constructed as the New London and Northern Railroad passes through the western portion of this town, and has station points of importance at Palmer and Three Rivers. The Ware River Railroad passes through the town, with stations at Thorndike and Palmer. The Springfield, Athol and Northeastern Railroad enters from Ludlow and passes in a northeasterly direction, touching at Three Rivers and Bond's Village.

Early Settlement—There seems no question but that the first settler in this town was John King, who arrived and effected settlement in 1717. The location was not far from the present Palmer Depot. The formal settlement of the town was not undertaken until 1727, when a company of Scotch-Irish emigrants began their settlement. These first few families came as descendants of a colony of Protestants from Argyleshire, Scotland, and had settled in the North of Ireland about 1612; they emigrated to America in 1718, and were hence among the first Presbyterians in the country. One of the first stores in Palmer was that of Amos Hamilton, at Palmer Center, about 1802. Small trading posts may have been there earlier.

Organization of the Town—It was in 1835 when the first attempt to organize a town was made here. This failed, however, as did other attempts. Finally, January 25, 1752, Palmer was incorporated as a district. All places incorporated as districts, prior to 1777, were declared to be towns, and by reason of this Palmer became a "Town" of the commonwealth. At this late day, it is of little interest who the men were who have held town offices in the past, but the following, from recent reports, may be of some interest to present-day readers:

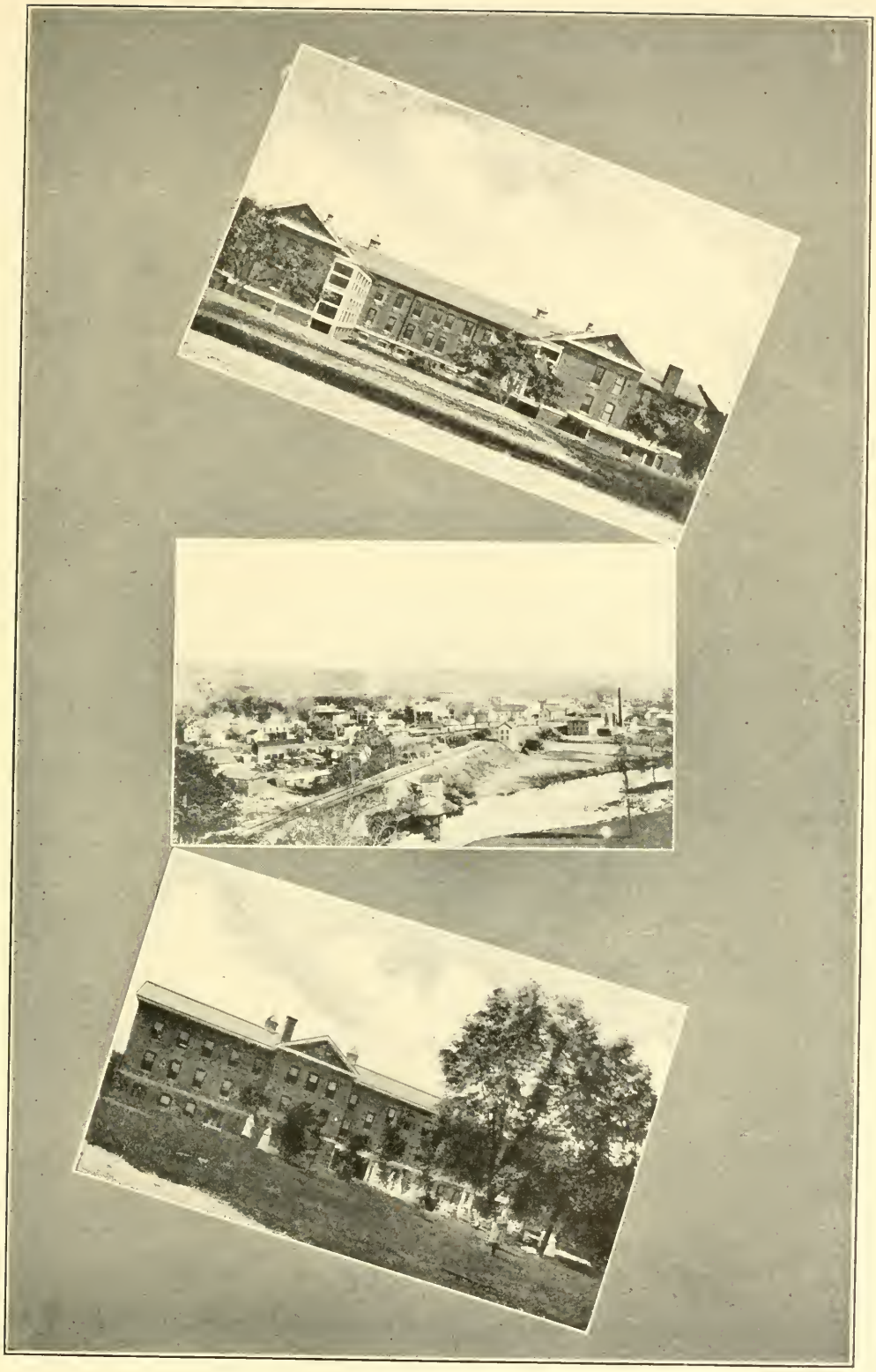
Town Report, 1924—The annual report last issued by the town officers gives facts as follows: The treasurer named the amount of balance on hand January 1, 1924, as being $66,052.21. Received from all other sources during the year, $771,970.11. Total receipts for 1924, $838,022. Disbursements—Paid out on town warrants, $707,884.50; balance, $130,137.82.

The assessors' report gives appropriations, annual meeting, $357,-463; at special meetings, $13,511; maturing debt, including interest, $33,633; State tax, $19,100; other sources, $20,078, making a total of $443,787. The valuation of personal estate in the town is $38,867; buildings, $64,973; lands, $15,023; total valuation in 1924, $118,864. The tax-rate is now $30.80 per thousand dollars valuation.

The reports from school officials show that in 1920 this town had a population of 9,896; in 1923 it had a school population of 2,823. The attendance statistics show for the year 1923-24 an average membership of 1,959; average attendance, 1,885; enrollment, 2,173. The schools in the town are: High, Thorndike Street, Park Street, Three Rivers Grammar, Wenimisset, Thorndike Grammar, Bondsville Grammar, Wire Mill, Palmer Center, Forest Lake. The total amount expended for schools in 1924 was $182,006.

Town Officers—In 1925 the town officers of the town of Palmer are as follows: Selectmen—William B. Kerigan, chairman; Frank G. Rogers, Charles A. Callahan; assessors—Charles E. Fuller, Daniel V. Fogarty, Henry L. Holden; town clerk—John F. Foley; treasurer—Robert L. McDonald; tax-collector—John T. Brown; auditors—Francis C. Horgan, Howard S. Curtis, Robert J. Wilder; constables—Michael Collins, James H. McGeachey, Burt S. Collins, David Ritchie, Louis N. Pero; tree warden—James H. McGeachey.

Villages—This town has villages as follows: Palmer, Thorndike, Palmer Center, Three Rivers, Bond's Village, the largest of which is Palmer. The last named village is in the southern portion of the town and in 1880 contained 1,500 population. It is located



PALMER

MONSON STATE HOSPITAL, MEN'S BUILDING

VIEW OF PALMER

WOMEN'S BUILDING, MONSON STATE HOSPITAL

at the junction of the Boston and Albany and New London railroads. Quaboag river flows past the village. It has long been known more as a railway center than as a factory village. For more than a half century it has had several branches of industry and supported Congregational, Baptist, Catholic and Universalist churches. A postoffice was established here in 1840, with Amos C. Billings as postmaster. The first newspaper was the Palmer Sentinel, first issued in 1846. The Palmer Journal was first issued in 1850. Banking was first represented in Palmer by the Savings Bank incorporated in March, 1870, with George T. Hill as president. The Palmer National Bank was organized on a $75,000 capital in November, 1875. The first president was M. W. French. The present Churches of the place are Second Baptist, Second Congregational, the Universalist, Evangelical, Methodist, First Congregational, Advent, Episcopal, three Roman Catholic.

Thomas Lodge, A. F. & A. M., was chartered December 13, 1796, by Paul Revere, G. M. At first this lodge of Masons met in Monson.

The present business and social activities of Palmer include the following: The industries include the large brush factory, the factory making blanket and robe material, the Palmer Carpet Factory, grist mill, two newspapers—Journal and Register; a factory in which the New England Metalic Culvert material is fashioned. The banks are the Palmer National and the Palmer Savings Bank.

Thorndike is situated on the Ware river and for years has been known as a lively manufacturing village. It is three miles from Palmer. The excellent water-power of this place has been utilized ever since 1837, when the Thorndike Manufacturing Company commenced operations. This is a noted cotton mill industry. Catholic, Congregational and Methodist societies have long since flourished here. A postoffice was established in 1805 in Palmer Centre, but in 1840 it was changed to Thorndike. The following was written concerning the factories of this place in 1879: "The Thorndike Manufacturing Company commenced its operations in that village in 1837, when they erected a stone cotton-mill. In 1846-47 they erected a second stone cotton-mill and then employed 450 persons. Cotton ticks, denims and stripes were made there. Over 3,000 bales of raw material are annually used, producing 5,500,000 yards of manufactured goods. The capital stock is $450,000." Probably the volume of business here is no greater now than it was when the above was written.

Three Rivers is a village situated in the western part of the town of Palmer, four miles from Palmer. It is so called on account of its location being at the junction of the Ware, Swift and Quaboag rivers, forming the Chicopee. The water-power was first used here in 1824, by the Palmer Manufacturing Company. Next came the Otis manufacturing plant. Forty-five years ago the churches were Baptist, Catholic and Union Evangelical. The first store was established by the manufacturing company in 1826. A postoffice was established there in 1825, with P. P. Russell as postmaster. The railway facilities are those afforded by the New London and Northern. The Three Rivers Reading Room was established in 1878. The population of the village in 1920 was 1,632

Bondsville is in the northern part of Palmer town, on Swift river, five miles distant from Palmer. This place grew up out of the water-power found there by the pioneers. The Boston Duck Company established themselves there in 1844. A part of the place was known as Duckville. Among the first churches built was the Methodist Episcopal edifice. A postoffice was established at this point in 1849, with Nathan D. Wight as postmaster. Nearly a half century ago Bonds was organized as a village and had a duck fabric factory with 15,000 spindles and employed four hundred persons. In 1877 they used 2,800,000 pounds of cotton and had a pay-roll of $7,000 per month. Capital stock was $350,000. In 1876 the great dye works were set in operation here and all kinds of cloth and flannels were colored. The present population of Bondsville is upwards of 2,000.

Other hamlets and villages include Palmer Centre ("Old Centre"), in the center of the town of Palmer and the first place a village was laid out. The oldest cemetery was laid off here. Here stood the old church building. With the improvement of near-by water-power this hamlet ceased to grow. Outlying suburbs to Palmer are Tennyville and Blanchardville, to the southwest. Four Corners is centrally located between the villages of Three Rivers, Thorndike, Palmer Depot and Bondsville. The early Town Hall was built at this point, as was also a Methodist church.

Town of Monson—This town is situated in the southeastern part of Hampden county and in the western and most important section of the original town of Brimfield. It is bounded on the north by Palmer, east by Brimfield and Wales, west by Wilbraham, all in Hampden county, and south by the State of Connecticut. It is

eight miles from north to south by five and one-half miles from east to west. It has a total area of forty-four square miles, or 28,160 acres. The U. S. census for 1920 gave its population as 4,826. The general character of the soil is good. A narrow valley extends the entire length of the town, from north to south. East and west of this valley are ranges of hills possessing excellent fertility for both grazing and tillage. Chicopee Brook courses through the center of the valley. For many decades the excellent water-power from the streams of the town have brought in numerous factories. Another stream is Twelve Mile Brook, in the northwestern part of the town. The railroads have materially aided in building up this town. The Boston and Albany passes through the northern section and in 1850 the New London and Northern Railroad was built through the center of the town, giving excellent shipping facilities.

Settlement—The reader is referred to the history of Brimfield for the early settlement of this town. The settlement in 1657 of Richard Fellows, in the north part of the town, near the junction of the Chicopee Brook with Chicopee river, and the establishment by him of a tavern at that place, is frequently stated as the first settlement of Monson. However, this was almost fifty years before the permanent settlement. On account of the Indian troubles Fellows abandoned his tavern and buried many of his tools, which were found by Captain Merrick many years later. The first permanent settler within the town was Robert Olds, one of the original Brimfield proprietors. He went to Monson from Springfield in 1715. The next settlers included Ezra and Samuel King, Benjamin Munn, John Keep, John Atchinson, Mark Ferry and Samuel Kilborn. The first store was conducted by Asa Moulton in 1760 on Moulton Hill.

Organization—Monson was incorporated as a district April 25, 1760. It was named for a friend of the Royal Governor and was incorporated as a town October 20, 1775. At the date of its being made a district, it had forty-nine families. Three of these were tenants and one a colored family. As late as 1798 sixty dollars was appropriated to "revive singing."

Villages—Really the town only contains one village, that extending two miles north and south. Its two extremities are called North and South Monson. It was principally laid out on one street, which constitutes the direct highway from Palmer to Stafford, Connecticut. So beautiful is the scenery and so superior its improvements that Dr. J. G. Holland used to write about it frequently. The Congregationalists, Catholics and Methodists all have had good-

sized congregations here. This town is the seat of Monson Academy. The bank, factories and town clock are all nestled in the central part of the town. A postoffice was established here in 1821, with Captain Rufus Flynt as first postmaster. The poor farm was located in the northeastern part of the town.

Educational—Soon after the incorporation as a district this town had three public schools established and in 1771 there were nine school districts, and this system obtained until forbidden by the new law of 1870. In the eighties more than $5,000 were expended for schools. Monson Academy was incorporated in 1804, with an endowment of half a township of land in Maine. The building was erected and dedicated in October, 1806, and was placed in the hands of fifteen trustees. This institution has been of great benefit to the entire community and has sent hundreds of both men and women forth into all parts of the globe. Up to 1800 more than seven thousand persons had attended this academy. Of the number, two hundred were ministers later in life. This institution is still doing a great work among other schools of Hampden county. It is non-sectarian and its present principal is Henry F. Dewing.

Churches—This town has been the home of Congregational, Methodist Episcopal, Baptist and Roman Catholic churches. The Monson Congregational Church was organized with twelve male and twelve female members, in June, 1762. On account of poverty, the General Court placed a special tax of a penny an acre on all lands in the town for the building of a meeting-house. The Methodist church was formed by a class in 1825; was organized by Rev. Joel W. McKee of old Brookfield circuit. The first regular Catholic establishment in the town was in the autumn of 1878, when a church was formed. A building had been erected several years earlier and occasional services held therein. The Baptist church was formed in 1768, partly in Wilbraham and partly in Monson towns. The church was named "The Monson and Wilbraham Baptist Church." These various denominations are still represented in the town and have good church buildings and fair congregations.

Societies and Corporations—A Masonic Lodge—"Dayspring," Ancient Free and Accepted Masons—was chartered here March 11, 1863.

Monson Free Library and Reading Room was established in 1878, and in 1880 it owned 1,000 books. The Monson National Bank (originally a State bank) was organized in 1854, and changed to a national bank in 1864. It was the first bank east of Springfield in

the county to become a national bank. The Monson Savings Bank was incorporated in 1872.

Industrial Interests—Up to 1811 the general occupation of all the population of this town was farming and its kindred callings. The ordinary saw-mills and grist-mills were, of course, early in operation. There was also the needful carding mill run by water-power, as were all mills. In 1820 the Rockbottom cotton factory was built; the Monson Woolen Mills operated from 1813 on; the same year was put in operation the Hampden Cotton Manufacturing Company's plant. The Ellis Mills were built in 1829 and burned ten years later. The straw hat industry in the eighties was a very important branch of trade in this town. In 1878 $800,000 worth of goods were made and sold. More than a century ago was opened a fine stone quarry in the section northwest of the central village. The foundation for the Springfield armory came from these quarries. At one time a stone was taken from this ledge measuring 354 feet long by 11 feet in width and 4 feet thick. Many public buildings in Hampden county, as well as in New York City, came from this quarry. With the change of times industries have changed. Other material has taken the place in building many modern structures, hence these quarries do not do the volume of business once accorded to them.

Coming down to modern times, the following refers to the local government and town officials in 1924-25:

Statistics for Town of Monson—The annual report of the town officers in Monson show that in 1924 the treasurer received $392,-014; he paid out through its various departments, $26,175.36; balance on hand December 31, 1924, $133,258.69.

The reports show the cost of the public schools in 1924 was $45,-514.77. For the year ending June 30, 1924, the schools of the town of Monson were Monson High School, South Main Street, Mechanic Street, Green Street, State Street, Colton Hollow, Pease, East Hill, Silver Street and Munn.

The 1924-25 town officers were: Town clerk—Freelon Q. Ball; town treasurer—R. H. Cushman; selectmen and overseers of the poor—C. M. Foley, F. M. Maquire, R. R. Moulton; assessors—Freelon Q. Ball, James E. Rindge, George H. Seymour; tax collector—Henry F. Miller; school committee—N. P. Dempsey, F. D. Shanahan, W. M. Tucker, H. E. Kendall, P. W. Soule; constables—H. A. Aldrich, Bernaice L. Broadbent, John P. McCartney, Levi Bert Bliss; auditors—R. E. Shaw, Allen J. Buffington, Wilfred

Kimber; tree warden—Robert F. Fay; town bookkeeper—Lizzie H. Osborn.

Monson Savings Bank—This bank was chartered March 27, 1872, and its organization completed May 20, 1972. The first incorporators were: William N. Flynt, Cyrus W. Holmes, Jr., Timothy F. Packard, Charles H. Merrick, Alfred Norcross, Rice M. Reynolds, Rice S. Munn, Edwin E. Towne, Rufus F. Fay, Daniel G. Potter, D. W. Ellis, E. F. Morris, S. F. Cushman, J. L. Bradway, Charles Carpenter and Rudolphus Homer. The first officers were: Charles H. Merrick, president; Rice S. Munn and T. F. Packard, vice-presidents, and Edward F. Morris, treasurer and secretary. Auditors—R. M. Reynolds, S. F. Cushman; Financial Committee—C. W. Holmes, Jr., R. S. Munn, Alfred Norcross; trustees—C. W. Holmes, Jr., Alfred Norcross, S. F. Cushman, R. M. Reynolds, D. W. Ellis, R. F. Fay, E. E. Towne.

The Monson Savings Bank began business June 1, 1872, at the office of Monson National Bank, formerly located at the corner of Main and Washington streets, until June 1, 1893, moving into its new building at the latter date. E. F. Morris resigned as treasurer May 31, 1893; F. E. Morris was elected as treasurer and clerk in 1893; E. F. Morris was elected president, May 31, 1893; E. F. Morris resigned as president, October 9, 1902; F. E. Morris resigned to become treasurer of the Waltham Trust Co.; E. D. Cushman became president, November 1, 1902, and C. A. Bradway treasurer, November 1, 1902. W. A. Squier was clerk from November 1, 1902, to May 6, 1903; W. L. Ricketts became clerk, June 30, 1910; E. D. Cushman died May 30, 1915; C. M. Gage became president, May 3, 1916. A. D. Ellis, vice-president, died November 30, 1916. A. D. Norcross, member board of investment and auditor, died February 13, 1916; R. P. Cushman, vice-president, auditor and member board of investment, died 1921. The present teller is Robert S. Fay, and clerk, Miss Hazel M. Bryans.

East Longmeadow—East Longmeadow is the youngest town within Hampden county, the date of its incorporation being July 1, 1894. Its territory is virtually the eastern half of what was formerly Longmeadow town. It is bounded on the north by Springfield, east by Hampden, and a portion of Wilbraham, south by Connecticut and west by Longmeadow. Its seat of justice is East Longmeadow; in 1920 its population was 2,352. Its early settlement, the history of its schools and churches has been largely nar-

rated in the history of the mother town of Longmeadow, hence need not be enlarged upon in this connection.

Annual Report—The annual report of the town officers for this town in 1924 contains items as follows: The treasurer reported receipts and disbursements to the amount of $259,352. Cash on hand December 31, 1925, $1,492.83. The assessors reported rate per thousand dollars valuation to be $37.20. Number polls assessed, 826; residents assessed, 961; non-residents assessed on property, 659; number horses, 162; cows, 368; other neat cattle, 96; swine, 21; dwellings, 654; number acres of land, 7,791; number fowls, 5,895. The school reports show the school population in April, 1924, to have been 668, of which 358 were boys and 310 girls. The schools of the town were the Center, with 310 pupils; Pleasant View, with 282 pupils; Baptist, with 27 pupils; Hall Hill, with 15 pupils. Total number in high schools, 113. Grand total attending Springfield schools, 121. The town library circulated 7,247 books in 1924.

The 1925 town officers include the following: Clerk, treasurer and tax collector—C. L. Cooley; selectmen, overseers of the poor, board of health and fence viewers—Herman W. King, 1925; Charles H. Knox, 1926; Lewis E. Whitaker, 1927; assessors—O. Louis Walcott, 1925; Henry E. Streter, 1926; Winslow S. Champlin, 1927; school committee—George H. Wheeler, Henry S. Ashley, C. S. Hurlbut; tree warden—H. W. King; auditors—Seabury R. Colby, John L. Malmstrom; moderator—Edward M. Burt; constables—Frank Goodrich, Joseph J. Laro; accountant—Harry E. Handy.

Town of Longmeadow—On the southern line of the county lies Longmeadow town. It is bounded on the north by Springfield, south by the towns of Enfield and Somers, in Hartford county, Connecticut; east by Hampden, and west by Agawam, in Hampden county. Its average length is about seven miles, and its average width is about one-half that amount, giving it an area of twenty-five square miles, or 16,000 acres. The population in 1920 was 2,618. The western half of this town is quite level; the lowest level is the famous "long meadow" on the river. Back of this, at an average distance of about three-fourths of a mile, is an abrupt rise of some seventy feet to the second "terrace" of the Connecticut river, which is on the same level as the armory in Springfield, and constitutes the principal plain of the great valley. On this plain is situated the old village of Longmeadow. Between this village and East Longmeadow forty years ago was a comparative wilderness covered with a heavy growth of forest trees, conspicuous and im-

portant among which is the "lofty pine." The eastern portion of the town is broken by a chain of hills, many of which are quite elevated. The streams are abundant and include Pecowsic Brook, Cooley's Brook, Wheelmeadow Brook, Longmeadow Brook, and Raspberry Brook, each flowing into the Connecticut. In the western portion there are only two streams of much importance—Watchaug Brook and the South Branch of Mill River rise near the eastern border and flow northerly into Springfield. The soil is variable. The bottom lands of the Connecticut are fertile, while other parts are too sandy to be of great value as an agricultural section. The town has long been well provided with steam railroads. The New Haven, Hartford and Springfield line passes through the western part of the town, with a station at Longmeadow village. It was first opened for traffic in December, 1844. East Longmeadow has the Connecticut Central Railroad east of the geographical center. The date of opening the road to the public was in the early spring of 1876.

Indian Occupancy—Longmeadow was the home of the Indian in the early days of settlement. Long after the first band of pioneers came in, it was frequently used as the highway for red men as they passed north and south on their hostile excursions. Its hills and dales also provided a good place for hiding, during King Philip's War, for the Indians. In March, 1676, on Sunday, while in company with a dozen others, John Keep, his wife and infant child were murdered by the savages. Mr. Keep was a selectman and prominent in the town.

Early Settlement—The date of settlement appears to have been in 1644, eight years after Springfield was settled. Benjamin Cooley, George Colton and John Keep, the man who was murdered by the Indians, were the first to effect permanent settlement. The Burt or Bliss families were very early, and possibly came before the above mentioned pioneers. The Ely family located between 1650 and 1660. The Stebbins families were also counted among the vanguard of those who first invaded this "green glad solitude." These were all well located by 1717 and had sons and daughters grown almost to man and womanhood. The rich bottom lands of the Connecticut valley attracted most of these settlers. Finally, the Connecticut river floods annoyed them, and in instances they were driven from their farm-homes by the angry waters. The freshet of 1695 was the worst they ever had. In 1703 the settlers petitioned Springfield for permission to move out of the meadow and build on the hill a mile

east of the river. This petition was granted, and the town voted to give them "the land from Pecowsic Brook to Enfield bounds, and from the hill eastward of Longmeadow half a mile farther eastward into the woods." It took time for this removal, but in 1709 the change was made, all moving their effects at about the same time, the result being the settlement of the present village of Longmeadow. The first settlers of the town came very largely from Roxbury and Dorchester, and were for the most part of genuine English extraction. The east part of the town was not settled much earlier than 1748. The first store was conducted by Samuel Colton in 1749. At first he carried his stock in some bureau drawers. He continued until 1776, when he refused to take Continental money for his wares, and the people took his goods by force. This merchant was the first person born in the village of Longmeadow after the removal from the "meadow." At the time "Merchant Colton" kept his store there was one at Springfield and one at Enfield, Connecticut, and each did about the same volume of business. Old account-books still seen in museums and private homes show that many charges were made in those days for rum, brandy, sugar and molasses. The first highway laid out in this town was the one on the river-bank from Hartford to Springfield.

Organization—Longmeadow was long a part of Springfield, and not until 1713, when the settlement had reached about forty families, was there a petition presented for incorporating as a precinct, after which it became the "Third Parish of Springfield." Really, the main object was to be provided with a house in which to worship God nearer their own homes and firesides, then uppermost in the minds of good New Englanders. April, 1714, the people voted to proceed to build a meeting-house. This building was ready to be used early in 1716. It was a square structure with hipped roof and central bell-tower. After this the important question was how to obtain and manage public schools. Finally, a schoolhouse was erected on the "Green." A second school house was built of brick in 1791, and stood in the green thirty-five rods south of the old church, and was destroyed by fire in 1851. Longmeadow was incorporated as a town by the General Court, October 13, 1783. The town name was naturally discovered from the fact of the long meadow extending along the east bank of the Connecticut river, which was thus named by pioneers. The first "Town Meeting" here was held November 13, 1783, with Col. Gideon Burt as its moderator.

Villages—Longmeadow is the principal village of this town. It stands about one mile east of the Connecticut river. The buildings are situated on either side of a wide street—about twenty rods—and in the center is a handsome common or park, planted to charming shade trees. The main street is a mile long and is shaded by elms and maples its entire length. This is a typical New England village of "ye olden time." The first postoffice in the village was established in 1810, Springfield having been the nearest office up to that date. Solomon Burt was the first postmaster. Longmeadow has never grown to any considerable extent, but has been the home of retired, refined and well-to-do people of intellectual tastes and tendencies.

East Longmeadow village is near the center of the eastern settlement of the town, in what is now East Longmeadow town, no less than seven roads centering there like the spokes of a wheel. A few houses, the Congregational and Methodist Episcopal church, a village school house, a postoffice and a few stores has been the sum total of the place. The postoffice was established under President Andrew Jackson's administration, with Seth Taylor as postmaster.

Churches—The churches of the town have been important factors. The First Congregational Church dates back to April, 1713, when "the people proceeded to build a meeting-house." This building was first used in 1716. The first pastor was Rev. Stephen Williams, of Deerfield. The First Baptist Church of East Longmeadow was originally united with the Enfield church, but in 1819 became an independent society. Their first church building was erected about 1830. The Second Congregational Church was organized at East Longmeadow, April, 1829. The First Methodist Episcopal Church, East Longmeadow, was organized in June, 1853, by Rev. D. K. Merrill in charge. In the autumn of 1853 the church dedicated a neat building at East Center and in 1860 a parsonage was provided. In 1880 this church had more than one hundred active members, and it has increased in numbers with the passing years. The Catholic denomination built a house in which to worship in about 1872 and services were maintained at that point many years.

Industries—This has always been known as an agricultural part of Hampden county, although many years ago there were a few industries in successful operation. Saw and grist-mills, of course, were always pioneers in the line of industries. At one time a pistol factory existed here. In 1848 the manufacture of buttons was commenced in the town by Dimomd Chandler, but later the plant was

moved to Springfield. In 1838 spectacles and thimbles were made in great quantities by Dimond Chandler. In the seventies and eighties a factory here was producing spittoons, wash-basins, water-pails, geographical globes and other articles of papier-mache. Twenty men were employed. The red sand stone quarries of the town were long worked by the Salisbury and McGregory companies. Fifty men were thus engaged in 1879. No other industry has paid so large a revenue in this town as the stone quarry interests.

Statistics for 1925—The annual report shows that in 1924 the indebtedness of Longmeadow town was $349,850; interest due in 1925, $13,906.

The board of assessors for the town in 1924 gave in their report the valuation of real estate at $2,337,348 in lands and realty in buildings, $3,819,750; personal property, $781,464—total valuation, $6,938,562. The following items were assessed in 1924: Number of residents, 1,217; non-residents, 517; total number persons assessed, 2,001; number polls assessed, 962; polls assessed only, 267; horses, 43; cows, 133; neat cattle, 20; swine, 16; dwellings, 842; number acres of land, 5,088 7-8.

The school reports for last year show a total membership as follows: Junior High, 54; Center School, 170; Converse School, 108; Norway Street School, 80; grand total, 412 scholars enrolled. Amount expended for schools in the town in 1924, $72,481.

The treasurer's report shows receipts and expenditures for the town in the last year to have been: Receipts, $542,015; expenditures, $527,164. Cash on hand December 31, 1924, $14,851.

The town officers for 1925 are as follows: Moderator—Henry Lincoln Bailey; selectmen, overseers of the poor, board of health and fence viewers—George S. Brigham, Winfield S. H. Seybolt and John G. Maxfield; clerk, treasurer and tax-collector—Frank E. Smith; assessors—Oscar C. Pomeroy, William S. Libbey, Harry C. Lapham; school committee—Harold C. Dudley, Maude R. De Meyer, William B. McCourtie; auditors—A. A. Mathison, B. H. Spencer, George C. Hennick; constables—Frank J. Owens, Harry M. Porter; tree warden—Gottlieb A. Baer; town solicitor—John A. Denison; chairman of school committee—William B. McCourtie; fire department—Robert G. Breck, chief-engineer, and others appointed to less important positions.

Town of Ludlow—This town is situated in the northeast corner of original Springfield town, and is bounded on the north by the

towns of Granby and Belchertown, Hampshire county; south by Wilbraham and Springfield; east by Belchertown; and west by Chicopee. In size it is four and one-half by six miles, covering an area of 27 square miles, equal to about 17,280 acres. The land as a general rule is comparatively level, the most elevated part being "Facing Hills," in the northern part of the town. South of Facing Hills is Jefferson's Peak. From an early date this has been considered as an excellent agricultural section. The streams are inclusive of Chicopee river, Broad Brook, Chapin Brook, Higher Brook, Stony Brook, and lesser streamlets. The Chicopee river forms the southen boundary of the town, and has a fall of sixty-three feet from the top of the dam to still water flow. The best water-fall is at Indian Orchard, where the stream plunges forty-two feet in a distance of one hundred rods. Another fine scene is Wallamanumps Falls. Near here is supposed to have been the place where King Philip and his 600 warriors remained the night after they had burned Springfield in 1675. Now the railway bridge spans the river at this historic point. The Springfield, Athol and Northeastern Railroad passes through the southern border of this town, touching Jenksville, Collins depot, and Red Bridge, thence following the river into Palmer.

Indian Occupation and Evidences of the Same—This territory, as well as other adjoining towns along the Chicopee river, gave evidence that this had been the home and assembling place of savage tribes of Indians. Numerous sharp implements, such as spears and arrow-heads, have been found in almost endless numbers. Hatchets, chisels, gouges, mortars and other implements and vessels have been found throughout its entire confines.

Early Settlement—The first distribution of land in this town was voted in February, 1685, but not much was accomplished at actual immigration until 1751. Tradition says one Aaron Colton was the first to permanently locate. It matters little who the man was, or just where he set his stakes. The Miller, Barber, Skinner, Lumbard, Kendall and Burr families were all among the pioneer band that first invaded and remained in this town. The earliest reference to guide-boards was in 1795, when the town needed a committee of nine to erect "way-posts."

Organization—By 1774 the town had a population of about three hundred and measures were taken to establish a separate corporation, and so the royal Governor was petitioned to grant an act of incorporation in February, 1774, which was admitted and passed,

so on the 28th of that month that part of the town of Springfield called "Stony Hill" was erected into a separate district by the name of Ludlow. The first town meeting was held at the home of Abner Hitchcock March 16, 1774. The correct origin of the word "Ludlow" is not now known, so all that is said or written about it is simply conjecture.

Villages—Jenksville is the chief village in this town. It is situated on the Chicopee river, and was formerly known as "Put's Bridge." It derived its name from a Mr. Putnam, who built a bridge at that point. An excellent water-power there attracted the manufacturing interests. What was styled the Ludlow Manufacturing Company operated a series of mills there. A postoffice was established in 1815. The first postmaster was Benjamin Jenks.

Ludlow Center is the oldest place in the town; it was where the first meeting-house was erected, the first measures of a town government were here discussed and local laws enacted. A postoffice was established there in June, 1874, when the community boasted of a Congregational and Methodist church and chapel.

"Ludlow City" was the name applied to a small collection of houses in the northwestern corner of the town. Farmers and retired farmers there gathered into a small community, where quiet and peace pleased the residents better than a lively village. Other hamlets have been known locally as Moody Corners and Miller's Corner.

Educational—The earliest mention of schools here was in 1777, after war had been declared against England. The town voted 400 pounds for the support of schools. In 1800 it was $133 per year. In 1880 the town had nine districts and the number of pupils was then 180; the annual cost was then about $2,000.

Churches—On account of the war and other distressing conditions, no regular preacher was employed until after the fall of 1793. The first ordained minister was Rev. Antipas Steward in 1793. His salary was sixty pounds annually and thirty cords of wood. This was a Congregational church, and after the above named minister was discharged a Baptist minister filled the pulpit until 1806. The advent of Methodism in Ludlow occurred in the last decade in the eighteenth century. A class was formed about 1792, but no regular organization was perfected until 1802. Ever since the last date Methodism has had a foothold in Ludlow. A union church was built in 1845-46, in which all took a lively interest. In 1867 a union church was formed, in which Congregationalists and Methodists

worked hand in hand. From these pioneer efforts have come the Christian element so pronounced in later days, even today. The present churches are the First Church of Christ, Episcopal and Roman Catholic.

Industrial—Ludlow has ever been classed among the farming section of this county. However, quite a goodly amount of manufactured goods have been made within its limits. First the saw and grist-mills utilized the falling waters of the never-failing streams so numerous. Rufus Calkins was the first to operate a small factory, where chairs, etc., were made and with which the early families were nearly all supplied. He began operations in the first years of the nineteenth century. Not many years ago there might have been seen the ruins of an old distillery at Ludlow City; tarkilns were set up here and there over the town; the old glass works are well recalled by older men of the town—they were the wonder of the community. Green bottles were made in this crude plant, which only lasted a few years. About 1800 Abner Putnam came from the east and started to make scythes, which developed into a large enterprise. In 1880 the main enterprise of the town was that of the Ludlow Manufacturing Company, which dated back to 1812, when Benjamin Jenks started to make cotton warps, which were sent into families to be made into cloth with woolen "fillings." Another concern was the Springfield Manufacturing Company, which made gun barrels for the government, and also engaged in the production of other articles, but finally failed. One by one, most of these industries have disappeared from the town.

Town Report of Ludlow for 1924 contains items as follows: Valuation of real estate, $5,648,393; of personal property, $3,808,889; number of polls, 2,006; acres of land, 16,226; dwelling houses, 1,225; horses, 284; cows, 727; neat cattle, 177; sheep, 47; swine, 81; fowls, 7,900; tax-rate per thousand, $31.60.

The treasurer reported cash on hand December 31, 1924, $9,401. Received from all sources during the year 1924, and incuding the cash on hand above named, $601,288, with expenditures amounting to $583,309, and cash on hand December 31, 1924, $17,979.

Real cost of public schools in town in 1924 was $134,137; total appropriation, $154,000. The total enrollment was 1,100 in village schools; East Street, 352; Holyoke Road, 33; West Street School, 55; rural schools, 113; total in elementary and high schools, 1,701.

The 1925 town officers include the following: Clerk and accountant—Olin F. Parent; treasurer—Charles S. Browning; collector of

taxes—M. J. Rooney; selectmen and overseers of the poor—Henry M. Sanford, chairman; Herbert A. Bartlett, Thomas J. Hyland; assessors—Napoleon Barrett, chaiman; Robert H. Munsing, Paul L. Wood; tree warden—John P. Clark; school committee—Dr. G. G. Bergeron, chairman; Mrs. Mary A. Brinie, Austin H. Cole; constables—Henry Benway, Merrill Benway, Joseph Blundell, Victor J. Brunelle, B. Herbert, Alfred A. Hill, Armand J. Latourneau, Homer Lavigne, George Mackintosh, Charles Milroy; trustees of the Hubbard Memorial Library—David Irvine, Mrs. Aura E. Roberts, Arthur I. Howe.

Town of Wilbraham—What used to be known as one of the outlying precincts of Springfield is now called the town of Wilbraham. It is centrally located in the eastern part of Hampden county, and is bounded north by the town of Ludlow, in the same county; south by the town of Hampden; east by Monson, Hampden county; and west by Springfield. Its total area is 12,570 acres. The western part of this town is very nearly level, not being broken by a single hill of any great size. But to the east of the central line are numerous elevations almost approaching to mountains. The soil is good and the husbandmen for generations have prospered as farmers and stock growers. The Chicopee river flows along the north border of the town, separating it from Ludlow, and furnishes a fine water-power for manufacturing. Twelve Mile Brook, Big Brook, Pole Bridge Brook are also within this section of the county. The Boston and Albany Railroad passes through the northern border of the town.

Settlement—Wilbraham was originally a part of Springfield, and was set off to certain proprietors to avoid the reversion of the unappropriated lands of Springfield, called the "outward commons," to the royal government. The first actual settler to establish himself within the confines of the present town was Nathaniel Hitchcock. He came to Springfield in the summer of 1730, cleared and broke up two acres of land and erected a log house. The ensuing winter he spent in Springfield and in the spring took up his permanent abode with his family in Wilbraham. In the spring of 1732 came from Springfield, Noah Alvord; Moses Burt followed in 1733, and a large number of settlers. In the northern part, on the mountain district, in about 1741, settled Jonathan Ely. During the first ten years of settlement there were thirty-eight children born, and but three persons died. After passing through the legal forms Jan-

uary 6, 1741, Wilbraham became the "Fourth Precinct of Springfield." The first precinct meeting was held March 12, 1741, at the house of David Merrick. Here, as at all places in New England, the first great conflict of opinion arose over the establishing of the first church. Finally Rev. Noah Merrick was chosen the first minister, he being installed beneath the spreading branches of a large oak tree. The weather later becoming inclement, services were continued at the barn. The next six years were frought with trouble in settling the question as to where the proposed church should be erected. Sixteen years later the church was finished, on Wigwam Hill.

Organization—It was fourteen years after January 16, 1749, before "the Fourth Precinct of Springfield" was set off, although many attempts had been made during that long period. Finally June 15, 1763, the act of incorporation by which Wilbraham became a district was signed by the governor of the province. It was named for some place in England, probably Wilburgham, in the county of Cambridge. This precinct or district was enlarged by the addition of a strip on the west extending from the Chicopee river to the Connecticut line, and again, in 1870, the "Oblong" was added. Later other lesser changes were made in its territory. The first town meeting was held in August, 1763.

Villages—There are only two villages within this town—Wilbraham and North Wilbraham. The former is situated in the center of the territory two miles from the railroad station. The village proper is about one mile in length, and a half century ago boasted of a Congregational and Methodist church and the Wesleyan Academy. A postoffice was established there in 1821, with William Knight as postmaster. The town of Wilbraham now has 2,780 population. North Wilbraham has grown up by reason of the building of the railroad. A postoffice was established in 1846 with Warren Collins as postmaster. Other community centers as long ago as 1880 were Butlerville, a mile east of North Wilbraham, and once had a manufacturing interest. It was styled North Village. Glendale, or East Wilbraham is a community in the east part of the town, at the four corners.

Schools—As early as 1737 an appropriation for schools was made by Springfield, the location of the school being in the "outward commons on the east side." In 1754 a schoolhouse was erected opposite where later stood the Congregational church. At the close of the Revolution the town had two schoolhouses. Coming down

to 1880, the town had seven school districts, 160 scholars and was drawing for the support of education the sum of $1,800. The presence of the Wesleyan Academy has caused this town to be more widely known than most rural sections in New England. This institution was founded by the New England Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church. It was incorporated June, 1818. Rev. Martin Ruter was its first principal. At first it was located at New Market, but after five years it was removed to Wilbraham and reincorporated in 1824. The Wesleyan Academy at Wilbraham claims to be the oldest literary institution of this denomination in America. William Rice of Springfield donated the land on which the buildings were erected. In 1879 the property was valued at $155,000. From 1844 to 1879 the average number of students was two hundred and fifty. Before the day of normal schools this academy also prepared teachers for their duties. Finally this school merged with other educational interests.

The Churches—Rev. Noah Merrick was the first ordained minister in Wilbraham. He died in 1776, aged sixty-six years, and after a ministry of thirty-five years. The town was divided into two parishes in 1788. It goes without saying that the first church organization was of the Congregational faith. Methodism first appeared in the town when ministers of this faith came from Hartford and preached in 1791. Two years later a church was built, but not finished until 1814. During all those years it was only provided with rough slab seats. In September, 1794, the New England Conference, then consisting of a dozen members, convened in the new chapel. Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church was built in 1870 of brown-stone and cost $30,000. In the seventies a small chapel was built in East Wilbraham, costing $800. Grace Chapel in North Wilbraham was built as a union of all evangelical churches. The Baptist denomination was first active in North Wilbraham in 1765 and in 1768 organized a church. In 1802 the membership was 228. They built a church, which was burned, and the society went down by 1830. These early churches planted the seed which has matured into the religious element found within the town today. Times have greatly changed, for it should be said that there were five slaves held in this town and that three of them were the "property" of the first pastor of the Congregational church, Rev. Noah Merrick.

Industries—The manufacturing industries of this town have included the Collins Paper Mills at North Wilbraham, built in 1872;

the Ellis Mill, built by Dwight W. Ellis in 1867; the North Wilbraham Grain Mills, started in 1877 by S. N. Cutler & Co., who originally started in 1845 at Ashland. In the eighties these mills produced 2,000 bags of meal (4,000 bushels) per day.

The schools, churches and societies here are abreast with the other towns of Hampden county, counting their population as a base. The following will interest the present-day reader somewhat:

Annual Report for Wilbraham—The town assessors' report for 1924 gives the appropriations made at town meeting for the year $79,185. Number of polls in town, 732, at $2.00 each; personal estate, $510,792; real estate, $2,003,818; total valuation, $2,514,610; number dwellings, 486; horses, 162; cows, 472; sheep, 9; neat cattle, 149; swine, 250; fowls, 9,364.

The treasurer's report shows for the same date as above receipts and disbursements for 1924, $225,540.89.

The reference of the superintendent and others relative to the public schools shows an expense of $5,002 for transportation of high school pupils and $65 for elementary school pupils. The school census of April, 1904, shows the town to have had at that date a total of 746 scholars between the ages of five and sixteen years, of whom 363 were boys and 383 were girls. The aggregate attendance in 1923-24 was 81,355; average attendance, 436; total membership, 467; the names of the present schools are: Stony Hill, The Pines, Wilbraham Street, Mountain, East Wilbraham, Glendale, North Wilbraham.

The town officers for this town in 1925 are: Town clerk—Mrs. Jennie T. Abbott; treasurer—G. Milo Green; selectmen—W. H. McGuire, Jr.; chairman; L. W. Green, E. L. Thompson; overseers of the poor—same as selectmen; assessors—L. W. Green, H. I. Edson, Fred Dobbs; school committee—Miss Evanore O. Beebe, chairman; H. W. Cutler, Thomas S. Bower; collector of taxes—C. W. Vinton; constables—Louis Bryant, Fred C. Phelps, John A. Ashe, Jr., A. C. Brodeur, Charles H. Fletcher; auditor—J. M. Perry; inspector of dairies—Fred C. Phelps; tree warden—Oliver L. Greene.

Town of Holland—This town is situated in the southeast corner of Hampden county. It is bounded on the north by Brimfield, of which it formerly constituted a part. Wales bounds it on the west, and together with it formed the district of South Brimfield in 1762. On the south is located the town of Union, in Connecticut. Sturbridge, Worcester county, forms its eastern boundary.

The general natural features and surface are similar to those of Wales and Brimfield, already described. Holland Pond (once known as Kesioge, is a fine body of water, in the northern part, and comprises eighty acres. Another pond is Partridge, containing about four acres. It was finally included in Hamilton Reservoir, which was built in 1862 by the Hamilton Woolen Company, who dammed the Quinnebaug river more than a mile southwest of Holland Pond. Several streams course through this town, but the largest is the Quinnebaug river, which enters at the south, and passes through the Reservoir and Holland Pond, thence into Brimfield.

Settlement—Much concerning the settlement here is found in the histories of Brimfield and Wales. It is believed the first person to settle in the town was Joseph Blodgett, one of the original proprietors of Brimfield. He was an early surveyor, and the records show much of his accurate work. Early in 1727 Blodgett resided on the South Meadow road. The next to enter as settlers were Enoch Hides, John Webber, John Bishop, Robert Brown, Ebenezer Wallis, and Jonathan Brown. Many of these came in from Connecticut.

Organization—In about 1760 a petition was presented to the town of Brimfield, from the southeast part of town, including Holland, part of Wales, and part of Brimfield, to be set off as a district. The west line of the territory was to be that of present Holland. The reason given was that the settlers had too far to go to attend public worship. It was September 18, 1762, when the district of South Brimfield was set off by the General Court. This territory remained under one municipal government until July 5, 1783, when, owing to frequent contention between the inhabitants of the east and west parishes, the district of Holland was created. The name of Holland was given it in honor of Lord Holland (Charles James Fox), an eloquent advocate on the side of the people of this country in the Parliamentary contests just prior to the Revolution. The district of Holland, as set off, constituted the southern portion of the "three-mile addition" which was made to Brimfield in 1714. In March, 1784, the first minister, Rev. Ezra Reeves, was engaged at a salary of sixty pounds a year.

It not being practical to insert town officers' names for the past, only the present are given:

The annual town report of Holland for 1924 gave the following items: Value of all real estate in the town of Holland was $176,580; personal property, $15,090; amount assessed on realty, $5,297; on

personal, $452.70; on poll taxes, $88; rate of taxation per thousand dollars, $30.00. The tax collector's report shows for 1924 taxes to the amount of $5,889; amount paid to treasurer and abatements, $4,679.82. The treasurer reported a cash balance on hand January 1, 1924; total receipts for year, $15,367.79; expenditures, $12,359; cash balance January 1, 1925, $3,008. The school reports show a total of 18 boys and 18 girls of school age in the town in 1924. There are three schools—High (Brimfield Academy), Primary and Grammar Schools. The cost per pupil in 1924 was $160.

The number of books in the town library was at last report 2,311. The librarian is Delia M. Blodgett.

The town officers for 1924 were as follows: Town clerk—Edwin M. Hall; treasurer—Mrs. Adaline S. Howlett; selectmen—Oliver T. Howlett, James A. Roberts, John H. Trepania; overseers of the poor—Dwight E. Butterworth, L. C. Howlett, Mrs. Adaline S. Howlett; assessors—O. L. Howlett, Theo. E. Blodgett, D. E. Butterworth; tax collector—James A. Roberts; constables—Edward F. Carney, Edwin M. Hall; school committee—Mrs. Adaline S. Howlett, James A. Roberts, Edwin M. Hall; auditor—Allan H. Faxon; tree warden—O. H. Howlett.

This town has never had a village of any considerable size. The nearest approach has been the hamlet, or collection of houses in the north part, where fifty years ago and more was to be found a hotel, postoffice, town-hall and town-clerk's office, the Congregational church, the pound and a blacksmith's shop. These with a few dwellings constituted the "village." The postoffice was established about 1813, with David Marcy as postmaster, and he kept the postoffice in his hotel. The nearest railway stations were Southbridge, nine miles distant; Warren and Stafford Springs, each eleven miles, and Palmer, thirteen miles.

One of the first issues after the district had been incorporated was that of providing public schools. This was taken up at a meeting in 1783. School districts were formed, and in 1800 the town had three school districts. Eighty years later there were only four districts and eighty scholars.

Churches—The Congregational church has always been the strongest church in the town. The first meeting-house in Holland was the old Central House, near Rattlesnake Mountain. One quaint old church record here reads: "On January 14, 1794, it was voted that the pulpit be colloured a good hansome pee-green, dun workmanlike in the course of the next summer."

The Congregational Church of Christ in Holland was organized September 12, 1765, when only three members were present. The following day Rev. Ezra Reeves was installed pastor and continued for fifty-three years, during which period there were added 158 names to the roll of membership. In 1817 a Baptist church was formed with ten men and ten women. The society dissolved between 1845 and 1850. They built and dedicated a church building in 1820. Later it was used by the town for public hall and school purposes.

This has always been an agricultural section. The early manufacturies have included these: About 1803, Josiah Hobbs had a tannery in the southwest part of town, continuing until 1828, and then sold to another.

Nail-making and iron forges, on a very crude plan, were carried on in this town about 1800. Powder was also made in limited quantities here. Before 1855 a cotton factory was operated here, until it was burned. This was the enterprise established by Elbridge G. Fuller, and at one time fifty persons found regular employment. Candle-wicking and cotton-batting were also made in considerable quantities. These industries have long since ceased to enliven the town, which today has only 160 inhabitants.

Town of Wales—This town is in the southeastern part of Hampden county, and is bounded on the north by Brimfield, on the east by Holland, on the west by Monson, and on the south by Stafford, Connecticut. It is almost exactly four miles square. For the most part the topography is rough surfaced, but there are frequent intervals of excellent land. The following is the description given of the natural features of this town forty years ago: "The principal body of water is Wales Pond, formerly called South or Moulton's Pond, which is a beautiful natural reservoir, situated a little east of the geographical center of the town, and covers about one hundred acres. Its outlet is Mill or Erwin's Brook, which passes northwesterly into the town of Brimfield, where it unites with the Quinnebauge river. Several smaller ponds are ranged along this brook, whose waters are used for milling purposes.

"A number of low mountains or hills diversify the landscape. On the east is Grandy Hill, which has been so called from the early times. Mount Hitchcock or Gardner Mountain, lying in the northwest corner of the town, partly in Brimfield, rises to a considerable height, and from its summit affords a view of remarkable extent and beauty. Mount Pisgah, just north of the center of the town,

is also quite elevated. Warner's Hill is in the southerly part of the town."

Early Settlement—This town was originally a part of Brimfield and the earliest settlement of the present town was made somewhat later than other portions of what was Brimfield, which was first settled in 1701, but no great immigration set in until 1717. No white settlers seem to have been permanently located in South Brimfield—the western part of which is now Wales—earlier than 1726, yet some tracts of land had been located by prospective settlers much earlier. The earliest actual settlers in Wales seem to have been John Bullen and Anthony Needham, and families who located in 1727 upon land later owned by Samuel Moulton. The Moultons, Needhams and Bullens intermarried and many of their descendants lived within this town for generations, even to the present. Other pioneer families include the Davis, Green, Shaw, Carpenter, Rogers, Fenton, Dimmick and Winchester families. One of the town's first taverns was kept by Samuel Moulton as early as 1740. It was voted in 1797 to provide a suitable pound and pay a pound-keeper. The earliest highway laid out and partly worked was in 1764. It was a rod and one-half wide and had "many trees marked," which were the only guide-boards used at that date.

Organic—At first Wales was included in the town of Brimfield. Holland, Monson, part of Palmer, and a part of Warren (then known as Western), were likewise included in the same territory. September 18, 1762, upon petition of persons residing in the south part of the territory of old Brimfield, the General Court passed a resolution setting off of that section of territory as a district, with all the powers and rights except of a representation in the Legislature. A warrant for the first meeting was served September 28, 1762. The first district meeting was held on October 5th, when Humphrey Cram was chosen moderator. Captain Joseph Blodgett was district clerk. The town or district was at first described as being about four miles from north to south, and about six and a half miles from east to west. In 1774 an act was passed making all districts then existing towns, with full rights and privileges. By virtue of this provision South Brimfield became a town. In July, 1783, the east parish of South Brimfield was duly incorporated as the District of Holland.

On December 3, 1792, it was voted "to provide a place to have small-pox in." Also "that those taking the infection repair within the lines."

In 1828 it was voted to change the name of the town to Clinton, but in the same month the vote was rescinded or changed, rather, by act of the General Court, which took the view that the name should remain forever "Wales," in honor of James L. Wales, a distinguished citizen, who had left the town the sum of $2,000, which proved of much value as time went on. With the passing years the town government here was up to the standard of most New England sections. Only the best fitted were chosen to hold the various town offices, and, without attempting to give a list of them all, suffice to insert in this connection items from the latest town annual reports, with a list of the present (1925) officers:

Town Statistics for 1924-25—The town treasurer reported a balance on hand January 1, 1924, $2,280; total amount on hand December 31, 1924, $31,337. Balance on hand January 1, 1925, $2,534; orders drawn by the selectmen during the year, $28,803; total credit, $31,337.

The school reports show for 1924 a cost for transportation of pupils, $895.13 (town schools); transportation for pupils to Brimfield, $958. The enrollment list shows grades on Center School, 60; total in district schools, 9; total in town, 71. Total in high and elementary school, 78. The total amount expended for schools during the last school year was $7,459.

The town officers for 1925 are as follows: Town clerk—Henry W. Weaver; treasurer—Leon H. Thompson; tax-collector—Nathan F. Bradley; selectmen—Dawes S. Perry, chairman; Walter P. Baker; assessors—Dawes S. Perry, George W. Daniles, clerk; William A. Royce; auditor—Alvin A. Hubbard; tree warden—Ernest L. Needham; constables—Albert C. Needham, chief; Charles Morris and William A. Royce; school committee—Anna B. Thompson, Emma E. Holt, chairman; Walter P. Baker; library trustees—Anna B. Thompson, chairman; Emma E. Holt, Mary E. Hynes.

The Village of Wales, the only village in the town, is situated near its center, about four miles from Brimfield Center. The village of Wales is ranged along both sides of the main highway from Brimfield to Stafford, Connecticut, and is over one mile in length. Its lower end towards the pond was first to be settled, and the old central village of the town, wherein most of the pioneers settled, is where most of the noted old landmarks are to be seen. The upper end of the village, where the numerous factories were built, is known sometimes as Shawville, for Elijah Shaw, who by his many commercial and manufacturing interests gave the place prominence. The town had postal facilities after 1800. In 1879 this village (says

a former history of this county) contained six woolen factories, a box shop, a silk-mill, two blacksmith-shops, four general stores, a tailor shop, a tin and hardware store, a butcher shop, three church buildings, three cemeteries, a hotel, and postoffice. Time has not improved the village commercially, as the U. S. census in 1920 only gives the population of the entire township as 419. The manufacturing interests have materially shifted from this section.

Churches of the Town of Wales—December, 1763, it was resolved to erect a meeting-house "at the northwest corner of John Danielson's farm." Trouble arose, and this church was never finished. The first church to build in the town was the Baptist denomination, in about 1760. The Baptists occupied it until 1802, when they sold it to the town. It was later sold to fourteen persons at auction and brought the sum of $105.80! At the same time a new building was going up, called the "Union House," in which all denominations might worship. During the first year's assignment, the Baptists were given thirty-two Sabbaths, the Universalists twelve, and the Congregationalists eight Sabbaths. The first church in the town was the Baptist, and with passing years they were considered the strongest denomination. The truth is that there never was great harmony among the various sects in Wales. The Congregational people in 1819 formed a church with twelve members, but it declined after a few struggling years. The Universalist church, those who believe in the final restoration of all men, had many believers here in 1780. Their leader was Rev. Elhanan Winchester, a former Baptist preacher. At different times and places within Wales this sect have had organizations. The Methodist Episcopal Society in Wales was established in 1830; in 1832 it numbered 125 members. In 1857-58 a great revival was carried on in the town by the Methodists. Under the wise policy of the Methodist church government this church is seldom without a pastor. From 1842 to 1850 the Adventists had quite a following in this town. One Powell, a former Baptist minister, was a leader in the belief that the world was to end in 1843 and that Christ was then to appear on earth. Great excitement prevailed, and the Baptist church held meetings in union with the Advent sect, but the Methodists held them aloof. When 1843 had ended, and the world still stood as usual and revolved around each twenty-four hours, the excitement vanished, leaving but few devotees of Adventism within Wales. The principal denominations of the town are now the Congregationalists, Baptists and Methodists.

Manufacturing—The first century after settlement was effected in this town farming was the chief product of the citizens, but after that, the oil being poor and the surface very rough, it became known that there were better ways of gaining a livelihood, and the people became interested in factories. While most of these enterprises have long since passed away, yet their story is of interest to the local history reader.

In 1837 the town assessors found the cash value of the palm-leaf hats made here by women amounted to $1,500 annually. From 1830 to 1842, boots and shoes were made to quite an extent. There were made in 1837 six thousand pairs of boots and nine thousand pairs of shoes. The assessors found in 1855 that there were made within the town 225 pairs of boots and 33,000 pairs of shoes. In 1847 Harlin G. Dunham engaged in the manufacture of cotton-batting. After a few years the works were turned into a factory for making candle-wicking, as this was before coal oil was in use. Tanning and currying was one of the early industries of this town. The largest industry, however, was that of making woolen goods, in which, among other heavy manufacturers, was the "Wales Manufacturing Company." Another mill was the Shaw Manufacturing Company, in the same line of work. Of later years the "Dell Mill," in the upper village, was the largest factory of the town, and in 1880 sixty persons were constantly engaged making woolen cassimeres. Other mills have been the Heagan Mill, the Valley Mill, the Eden Shaw Mill. There only remains one factory—the Heagan Mill, running part of the time—producing a small amount of woolen goods.

Town of Brimfield—This town is situated in the eastern portion of Hampden county, and is bounded on the north by the town of Warren, Worcester county; on the south by the towns of Wales and Holland, Hampden county; on the east by the town of Sturbridge, Worcester county; and on the west by the towns of Monson and Palmer, Hampden county. The town contains an area of 21,618 acres.

Of its natural features it may be said that it is situated on the highlands which separate the Thames from the Connecticut rivers. The most of the town is quite highly elevated, the highest point being 1,200 feet above sea-level. A series of ridges runs from northeast to southwest. The prominent elevations are named Waddaquodduck Mountains and Steerage Rock. The principal streams

are the Quinnebaug and Quaboag rivers and their tributaries. This is truly one of the county's "hill towns."

Indian Occupation, Etc.—When first settled by white men this town was one vast forest, but the Indians had burned off about 2,000 acres for the cultivation of corn and to make an early grazing spot for the deer. The early settlers followed the custom of the Indians in planting corn. The proper time seemed to be when the young oak leaf was the size of a mouse's ear. The correct method was to hill the corn, planting beneath the seed a fish for plant food.

Early Settlement—This town was originally settled by sixty families in 1701, under order of the General Court. Twenty-one residents of Springfield appointed Col. John Pynchon, Captain Thomas Colton, Pelatiah Glover, James Warriner, David Morgan, and Joseph Stebbins a committee to lay out a new township, eight miles square, on the eastern boundary of Springfield. They were to settle thereon, distribute it to sixty families; settle twenty families within two years from May, 1702. No one person was to hold more than one hundred and twenty acres of land. It was not until the committee had made several trips out from Springfield to view this land that they were able to determine where to locate the central village. Grouts Hill, now in the town of Monson, was finally selected as the proper place. The first grants of land were made in December, 1701, to thirteen persons. The persons to whom grants were given failed to meet the requirements of settlement the following spring, and for a number of years no settlement was made. As originally laid out, Brimfield included the present towns of Monson, Wales, Holland, part of Palmer and other territory. Monson was incorporated as a district in 1760, and it became a town in 1775. The first town was designated as "the plantation adjoining Springfield to the east of Springfield." The records show they changed the name for convenience to Brimfield. At first the Indians were a source of great annoyance, and two block-houses had to be constructed, where the residents could take refuge at night, or in case of a day attack. The site of one was south of the mill-pond, and the other stood where later the alms-house was erected. The settlement was of slow growth. Land titles were defective and litigation ensued, and not until June, 1731, did the General Court affirm the titles to proprietors. From matters of record it seems the first actual settler in the town was Nathaniel Hitchcock. The first house was built by him.

The first town meeting was held March 16, 1731, with Robert Moulton as moderator.

The villages of this town have been inclusive of Brimfield Centre, East Brimfield Village, West Brimfield, or Powers Corners, Fosket's Mills, Little Rest, none of which ever grew to any considerable size. The main village is Brimfield Centre, where the old town plat of early days was established. Being in the center of the town, it is eight miles from Palmer and six from Warren, the nearest railway station. In 1879 it was reported as having 400 population. About that time a good town-house was erected. At that date there was an Advent chapel and a Congregational church building, a high school, a hotel, the alms-house, postoffice and town library. Stages were then passing through the place twice each way daily. The place had less than eight hundred inhabitants in 1920. The remaining villages are small and are not as a general rule as prosperous as in the early times before larger places took the lead in manufacturing plants.

Schools—Aside from the common public schools mentioned later, Brimfield Centre was blessed with the gift of "Hitchcock's Free High School." It was incorporated in 1855 and opened the same year. It was given the town by Samuel A. Hitchcock, and his donations amounted to over $75,000. A library was maintained from the first.

Churches—The first meeting-house was erected as the Congregational edifice in 1722. It had no tower, chimney or steeple. The town also has been the home of the Church of Christ at East Brimfield, built in 1871; and another denomination has been the Moravian, or United Brethren, in West Brimfield, in 1855. A church was built and burned, and later another was erected. Since 1868 the society has not existed.

Other Historic Items—Humanity Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Brimfield was organized in the town of Holland in 1811, but in 1813 was removed to Brimfield. This lodge is not mentioned after 1834. The people in this town at an early date were great drinkers of liquor, especially flip and toddy. The books of dealers were filled with accounts where rum, wine and brandy were frequent items. One account against Rev. Nehemiah Williams states that his bill was all paid to date except for the "items of rum, which are unpaid and due."

This has always been more of an agricultural town than one of manufacturing enterprises. Grist and saw mills, potash works, potteries, brick-yards, shoe shops, and cabinet-making have been carried on in long ago years.

Town of Hampden—This town is bounded on the north by Wilbraham, on the east by Monson, on the west by Longmeadow and Springfield, all in the same county, and on the south by the towns of Somers and Stafford, in Connecticut. The town's area is 11,281 acres. The United States census in 1920 gave the population as 624.

The center of the town, from north to south, comprising an area of about two miles in width, is thickly studded with lofty hills. Mount Vision (Rattlesnake Peak) marks the northern limit of this range in the town, and affords a wonderful view of the surrounding country. Other elevations are known as Pine and Bald mountains. Numerous streams flow hither and yon throughout the territory. Scantic Brook, a stream of considerable size, a tributary to the Connecticut, takes its rise in the southeastern corner of this town. It furnishes excellent water-power. The pioneer attempts at manufacturing were undertaken on this stream in old Wilbraham. Farming is profitable and is the chief occupation of its thrifty citizens. The best and largest farms are in the eastern and southeastern parts of the town.

Settlement—This town was not settled as early as its mate—Wilbraham. Prior to 1741 there was not a single settler in what is now Hampden town. In the spring of 1741 came Stephen Stebbins from Longmeadow and settled on the north bank of the Scantic, where subsequently resided Orville Pease. On the east side of the mountain was William King, a large landowner. The first road laid out in this town was from Third Brook over to Wales.

Organization—The inhabitants of this town were set off as South Parish of Wilbraham by the General Court, June 11, 1782. March 28, 1878, an act passed the Massachusetts legislature establishing the town of Hampden, its boundary being specified to be almost identical with that of South Parish. William R. Sessions was chosen moderator at the first town meeting, which was held in the Congregational church April 8, 1878. With the years of its history this town has had excellent men in the several town offices, the list being all too long to here publish. Before passing it may be well to give extracts from the last annual report of some of the town officers, who served last year, as well as to give a list of 1925 town officials:

Hampden Annual Report—The last official reports from this town show the town treasurer received during the last year $53,804 from all sources and paid out that amount, less the item of "cash on hand" in treasury January 1, 1925, of $5,547.

The assessor reports for 1924 the number of residents assessed, 215; non-residents assessed, 88; total number persons assessed, on poll only, 49; number persons assessed on property, 303; tax-rate per thousand, $27.00; value of assessed personal estate, $84,245; total valuation, $524,785; tax on real estate, $11,894; on personal estate, $2,274; total $14,565. The number of horses in the town was 163; cows, 478; neat cattle other than cows, 182; swine, 14; dwelling houses, 203; fowls, 6,309; sheep, 18; number acres of land, 12,130.

The school committee gave the following facts in their last report: The April school census in 1924 shows 78 boys and 57 girls of school age. The town has three schools—Center, West Side and Scantic. The membership is as follows: Center, 65; West Side, 45, and Scantic, 12, making a total of 122 pupils. The summary of expenses for the above schools was $8,240, including teachers' salaries, $4,700, and local transportation, $502.60. The high school transportation was $3,134.

The town officers for 1925 are: Town clerk—Charles I. Burleigh, who is also the town treasurer; selectmen and overseers of the poor—Neil S. Kibbe, chairman; Nelson M. Carew, J. J. Flynn; assessors—Walter Bartlet, chairman; Walter Temple, Raymond E. Kibbe; school committee—Charles F. Medicke, chairman; L. H. Guptill; tax collector—Charles I. Burleigh; auditor—Raymond S. Smith; tree warden—George F. Shaw.

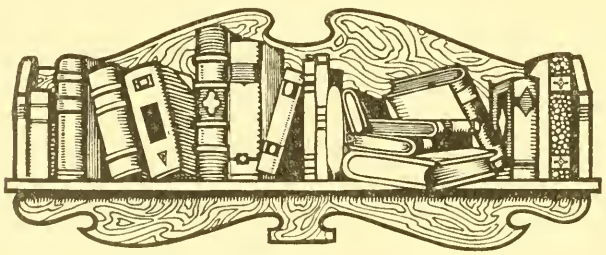
The only village in the town is situated in the geographical center and is ranged along the main highway running through the town. In the seventies there were three woolen factories within the village limits proper. At that date there were Methodist, Baptist and Congregational churches, and an academy. The nearest railway stations were then Stafford Springs, Connecticut, and North Wilbraham. A postoffice was established at this point in 1826, with Dudley B. Post as postmaster.

The school history of the early days here has been included in that referring to Wilbraham. Hampden Academy was founded on the subscription plan in 1844; the first teacher was Elijah Brooks. It was still an educational institution of some note as late as 1880.

The Churches—Congregationalism dates back to the incorporation of South Parish June 11, 1782. The first meeting-house was "raised" in June, 1783, and it was ten years later before it was finished. A church was organized in 1785, with Rev. Moses Warren

as first pastor. The Baptist society has been noted in the Monson town history. Up to 1855 the two were united as one church. A church edifice was erected and wisely it was located in the center of the town. The Methodist Episcopal church at Hampden (then Wilbraham) was organized in 1830 by members largely from the Congregationalist church. The leading member in this movement was Mr. Sessions, a strong Arminian, who was a power in the Methodist denomination. The ground-work of the present religious sentiment in the town today has felt the impress of those sturdy characters of the long ago years.

Industrial—In 1750 Lewis Langdon built the first mill on the Scantic and sawed the first lumber for pioneers. At the date of the opening of the Revolutionary War the same Langdon erected a grist-mill. Saw-mills and grinding-mills were scattered here and there at different times along the stream. In places there were also fulling and carding mills. One Roper invented and made many clover-mills and later added the business of chain-making. Potash mills were also in evidence. Tanneries and woolen mills were a part of the industries in those early days in Hampden. The Hampden Woolen Mill was built by Eleazer Scripter about 1858, and was then styled the "Ravine Woolen Mill." The Scantic Woolen Mill was erected in 1865, and continued to make fine cassimeres until 1875. Paper was also made in the southern part of Hampden at one time, but was not a financial success.



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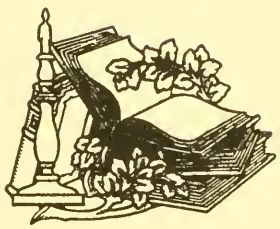

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